Book J

Aug 14 1974 Eagle

Edward Rensin

ABANDONED FARMHOUSE, photographed in New Hampshire in 1973, is one of the 22 prints by Edward Rensin now on exhibit at the Lee Library.

Photo show opens in Lee

Contract talks slated to go to fact-finding unit

LEE — An exhibit of 22 photographs by Edward Rensin opened at the library here on Main Street last week and will continue until the end of August.

Titled, "People, Places and Things," the collection is comprised of a blend of abstract patterns, straightforward portraits and interpretive landscapes.

Rensin, a 27-year-old New Yorker who summers in Lenox, is a musician. He teaches instrumental music in Yonkers, N.Y. and has played as a solo and orchestral musician with symphony orchestras in Westchester County, N.Y., Scranton, Pa., and Ridgefield, Conn.

A graduate of the Horace Mann School in New York, Rensin received a bachelor of arts in music from City College of New York in 1969. This year, he received a master of science degree in education from State University College, New Paltz, N.Y.

Rensin, who has spent several summers photographing New England, has also given slide-and - lecture presentations about the Hudson River, Iceland and Canada.

Eagle 7-2-75

A BOOK FITLY CHOS
IS A LIFELONG FRIE

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

Photographer Sam Rappaport stands in front of some of his pictures, which are now at the Lee Library.

Rappaport

A stone-sharpener in Housatonic

Lee exhibit shows S. Berkshire folks

LEE — A photography exhibit depicting the people of the Southern Berkshires is on display at the Lee Library through July 14.

The exhibit is part of an overall project on the area by Sam Rappaport of West Stockbridge. He is being paid under the CETA program and is being sponsored by the Artisans Exchange.

"The photographs' aim is to reflect the time and the place in which they are taken. I think the people and the buildings reflect an area. I hope 30 years from now the photographs can bring that feeling across," said Rappaport, a 21-year-old New Jersey native who settled in the area about a year ago.

Rappaport also plans an exhibition of photos of the area's buildings, with emphasis on the newer ones. All the photos Rappaport has taken will be kept in the archives of the Lenox Library.

The exhibit will be shown at libraries throughout the Southern Berkshires.

Rappaport

John Farina, Lee mechanic

C.R. GIBSON
NORWALK, CONNECTICUT
SCRAPBOOK
Refill No. K053

Robert McDonough

SECURITY CHECKPOINT is used at the North Adams State College library by Mrs. Virginia Morin, circulation assistant. Helping demonstrate use of the turnstile is Sarah Clarke, right, circulation chief, and Librarian Charles A. McIsaac. The turnstile gate automatically locks when a book is improperly removed from the NASC library.

Libraries reach Age of the Ripoff

Some county librarians use special security systems

By Robert M. McDonough

Libraries, like self-service department and grocery stores, are reporting increasing losses to thieves in this age of the ripoff, and Berkshire County libraries are no exception.

College libraries appear to be the hardest hit, but high school and public libraries also report increasing thefts from their open stacks. Some Berkshire County libraries have instituted special security systems and others are considering this.

In Pittsfield, Berkshire Athenaeum Librarian Robert G. Newman says he will take legal action, when possible, against thieves. He reported annual losses of 1,000 to 2,000 books a year at a cost ranging from $8,000 to $16,000 a year.

"We will prosecute," Newman says. "We have a responsibility to safeguard our collection."

Nationwide statistics indicate the average annual loss to a library's collection is 1 to 2 per cent. Although most Berkshire County librarians say their losses fall within this estimate, many report their losses are on the rise. Libraries with electronic systems in use experience a marked decrease in theft rates.

* * * *

Thieves have shown a preference for subject matters. New books, paperbacks and books on such practical matters as weight training, home repair and child care are prime targets. Translations and books on witchcraft and drug use are also hard hit. At Westfield State College, one determined thief systematically made off with a 24-volume encyclopedia, one volume at a time.

This year Westfield State installed a $5,000 3M Co. Tattle-Tape system. In the past three years, the ratio of books lost to books gained increased from 5.6 per cent, a loss of 842 books valued about $6,000, to last year's high of 11 per cent, 1,325 books valued at more than $10,000. The new system involves placing a minute metal piece inside the book binding, and requires borrowers to pass books through a metal-sensitive device at the door. If the book is not properly checked out, an alarm is set off.

"The system was worth the investment," Westfield State Librarian Kenneth Cotton says. He says the system will discourage casual thieves because the book must be defaced to remove the metal.

"We're after the dedicated thieves," Cotton says. "But anybody who wants to stay up late and figure it out can probably beat the system."

* * * *

At North Adams State College, a different electronic system, the Checkpoint system, has resulted in an 85 per cent reduction in losses since its installation in 1973 at the Eugene L. Freel Library, according to Librarian Charles A. McIsaac. He estimates the 1971-72 loss to his 80,000-volume library at 800 to 1,600

Continued on Page 18
Libraries report ripoff losses

Libraries report ripoff losses

Continued from Page 1

books at a cost of $25,000, roughly half his acquisition budget.

McIsaac says in the year before the system's installation, 83 books were stolen from the reference collection. In the three months after installation only seven were stolen. The system cost $7,500, plus 16 cents for each seven- by four-inch metal plate installed in the books, plus $300 annually for maintenance, and it is used to protect less than half the collection.

McIsaac says the main reason for theft is because students are under pressure to use the books. The feeling, he says, is that "if you don't get it, someone else will." He says the electronic system "restores the students' confidence that the book will be there."

* * * *

Such systems do have shortcomings, however. In older buildings, the systems can be circumvented by dropping books out of windows that can be opened or by thieves using alternate exits, even emergency fire exits.

Even at Berkshire Community College's Jonathan Edwards Library, where there is no checking system at all, thieves have ignored warning signs and made frequent use of alarmed exits, according to Librarian Marjorie Gustafson. She says there has been a slow rise in theft at BCC, which loses between 300 and 350 books per year, falling within the national average. She says the cost to the library is around $2,000 per year, and that an electronic system would pay for itself.

"The security here is zero, not even a checker," Mrs. Gustafson says. "We've never intercepted anyone. Students look like professors, and professors look like students, and you can't be sure."

Mrs. Gustafson says the isolation of the new BCC has helped level off theft, and that "a certain amount of attrition is inevitable. It's the nature of the beast." But she says the biggest problem is the attitude of the thieves. "People don't consider it theft, just borrowing," she complains. "They think it's here for them to use and take."

* * * *

As at many library locations, Williams College Library has experienced much of the theft in the periodical department.

"Missing issues of periodicals is our biggest headache," according to Williams College Librarian Lawrence E. Wikander. He says the periodicals stolen are mostly professional journals, not available on newsstands, and replacement can sometimes go 10 times the original cost.

Williams employs a student to check books at the door, but Wikander admits that "a determined thief can take anything but a rare book." There are seven doors with alarms at the library, but Wikander says "there is no central panel of Keystone Cops to answer the alarms." He says the number of exits required by fire laws defeats the purpose of a security system.

The losses at college libraries are not just from the shelves. Wikander reports thefts of stereo phonograph needles and cartridges and light bulbs. Mrs. Gustafson said a pocket calculator was stolen from the BCC library, and most librarians contacted said there had been theft of personal belongings left unattended.

* * * *

Local high school libraries have also been victims of the theft binge. Pittsfield High Principal William P. Coan says between 170 and 175 books are stolen there each year, but that this number does not justify an electronic system. He says many books turn up in lockers or are left at the Berkshire Athenaeum by mistake. He says many books are returned after the school threatens to withhold a diploma from delinquents.

Mrs. Rita Nesbit, PHS librarian, says literary criticisms and bound paperbacks are most often stolen.

"The cost annoys me," Mrs. Nesbit says, "but the big difficulty is replacing the books. Somebody did a paper on Poe and cleaned me out."

Taconic High Librarian Isabelle Knollmeyer also reported a problem of paperback-book theft.

"We put out 500 paperbacks this spring," she says, "and in one month 154 were stolen. No one thinks it's wrong, and parents should be made aware."

The watchful eyes of Ms. Knollmeyer and her assistant are Taconic's only security. She complains that students carry jackets and gym bags into the library and cannot be checked. Taconic Principal John C. Davis says putting in security checkers "creates an atmosphere you don't like to see in a public high school," but that perhaps the school's library club might supervise the area. "We can improve security by taking steps internally," Davis says.

At St. Joseph's High School, Sister Jean Bostley, librarian, says theft "is definitely a problem," and that "to solve the problem, you have to deny other services." She says the St. Joseph's High library experiences about 100 thefts per year.

* * * *

A notable exception to the theft problem exists in Southern Berkshire County. Lee Librarian Betty Dennis says an annual loss of as many as 10 books from the 24,000-book collection "would be rare. We've been very fortunate." She says many books are returned by being left in the doorway, and that the only problem is "getting a page or two ripped out now and then."

Stockbridge Librarian Mrs. Jonathan Ezequelle reports a maximum of 25 books are lost there during the year and that "there is no deliberate theft."

William D. Roche, treasurer of the privately financed Lenox Library Association, says that library has "no theft problem of any great nature," but that because of problems reported elsewhere, the library will install a $5,000 three-camera, closed-circuit television system.

* * * *

Berkshire Athenaeum Librarian Newman says the present honor system is inadequate. His library is not insured against "mysterious loss," as most theft is labeled and the annual loss he places at $10,000. He cites direct theft, non-return of borrowed books and vandalism as his three major problems. To recover a book from a borrower, the Athenaeum will first send a letter, then make a telephone call, send a registered letter, send a personal messenger, then notify the police.

Newman says in the new library, the employes will be situated at better vantage points, and that he may use the services of volunteer checkers. The new building, he says, will also have a motion detector to alert police when there is unauthorized movement in certain areas. The building's outside lights will be left on, and a custodian will be on duty all night, Newman says.

"It is very unfortunate that we have to do all this," Newman says.

32—The Berkshire Eagle, Friday, Oct. 22, 1971

Frank McCarthy

LEE LIBRARY has new furniture in its recently remodeled basement rooms, which have nearly doubled the space in the library. The furniture, which consists of tables, chairs, coat rack and room dividers, is a gift of the the Lee Kiwanis Club. Trying out the new equipment at library open house last night were Henry G. Greiner, left, president of Kiwanis, librarian, Miss Elizabeth Dennis, and John H. Dolan, president.

Fanning Elected Treasurer of Library Assn.

LEE — Francis G. Fanning was elected treasurer of the Lee Library Association at a meeting last night held during an open house.

Fanning was elected to the board of directors at a meeting of the library association membership, and then elected treasurer by the directors. As treasurer, he succeeds the late Claude Haggerty, who had served in that office for sever years until his death earlier this month.

A turnout of 56 attended the open house, during which Henry G. Greiner, president of the Kiwanis Club, presented the librarian, Miss Elizabeth Dennis, with a check for $500 for purchase of furniture for the recently remodeled basement rooms. The check will also cover the cost of purchase of new books.

The money comes from the Kiwanis Club's Youth Activities Fund, into which the club puts the proceeds of its annual steak roast and the recent snow-morama, the exhibit of snowmoiles.

Berk Herald
Aug 8. 1973

John Waring

LEE IN CHINA — Lee at the turn-of-the-century can be seen in a Chinaware collection now on display at the Lee Library. This cup, bearing a picture of the library, is part of a collection donated by Wellington Smith III.

New Lee Library Display Case Shows Old China with Local Scenes

LEE — The Lee Library recently purchased a table-style display case with funds donated to the library by friends and relatives of the late Mrs. John T. Cinella. Librarian Betty L. Dennis said the case is dedicated in memory of Mrs. Cinella.

Ms. Dennis announced that currently on display in the new case are china cups, saucers, plates and other souvenir dishes —each depicting a local scene— that were imported by Lee merchants at the turn of the century. She said the collection was given to the library several years ago by Wellington Smith III.

Ms. Dennis also said the library will welcome the loans of other collections for display and interested persons should contact her at 243-0358.

Flag is stolen from Lee Library

LEE — The American flag was taken early this month from the pole in front of the Lee Library, and if whoever took it returns it, no questions will be asked, according to William Derrick, custodian.

He said whoever took the flag was apparently also responsible for breaking the chain on the pole's lanyard. This has been repaired, Derrick said.

Earlier this spring, vandals broke the glass globes over the lights on the standards at the foot of the library steps.

The Berkshire Eagle, Wednesday, July 24, 1974

8/27/73

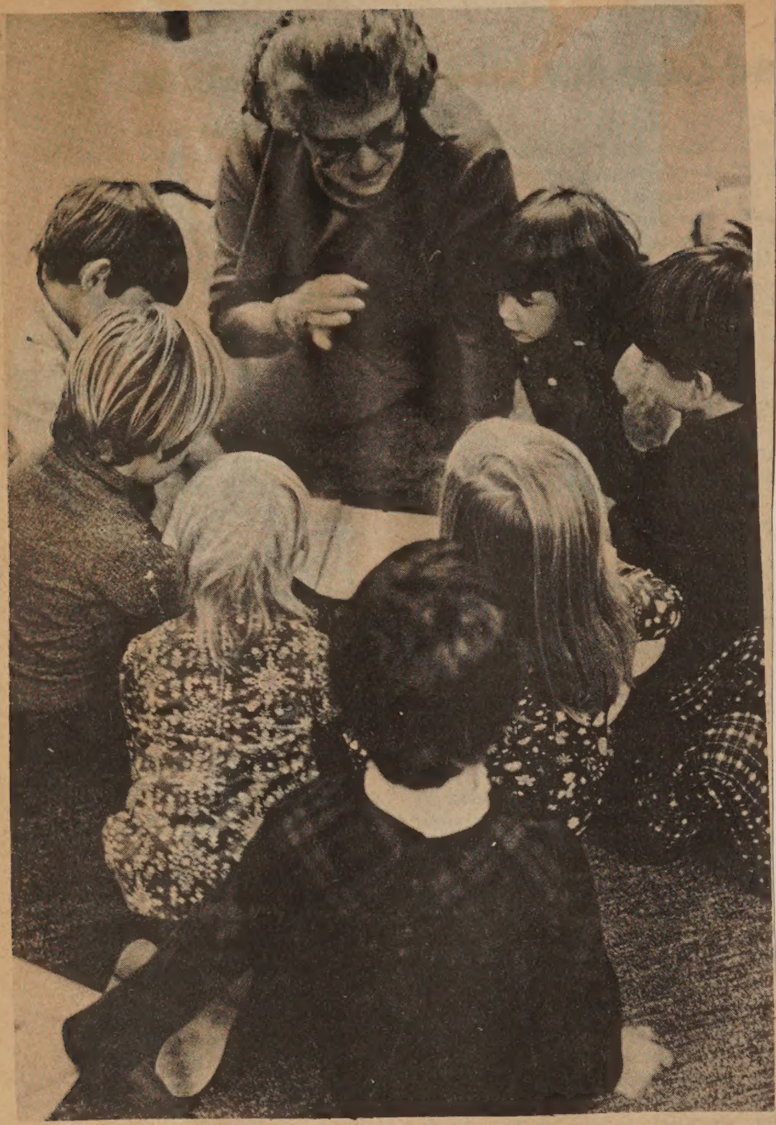
Lee Library children's program to end

LEE — The last children's program of the season will be held at the Lee Library Wednesday at 10:30.

Stories scheduled are "The Wheel on the Chimney," "Time of Wonder" and "Paddle to the Sea." Certificates earned by members of the children's reading club will be awarded by Mrs. John Dulin, after which punch and cookies will be served by mothers and staff members.

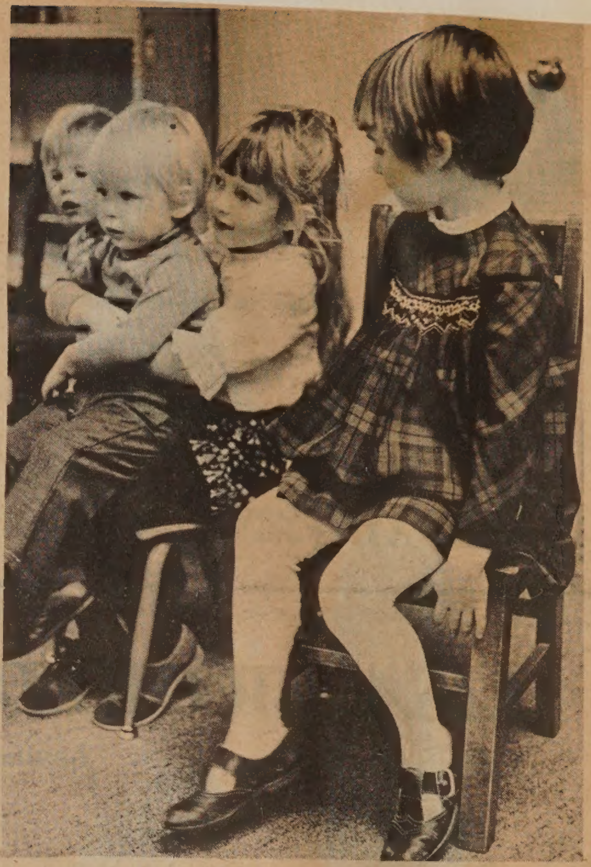
Truck drivers wanted. Apply n person. Lee Lumber Co.—Adv.

In other business Monday, the Selectmen heard a report from John Dolan of Devon Road, a member of the Library Association, about the library's fears of being included in the town's historical district. The library association fears that the library may not be able to expand if it is declared a historic building. 5-21-75

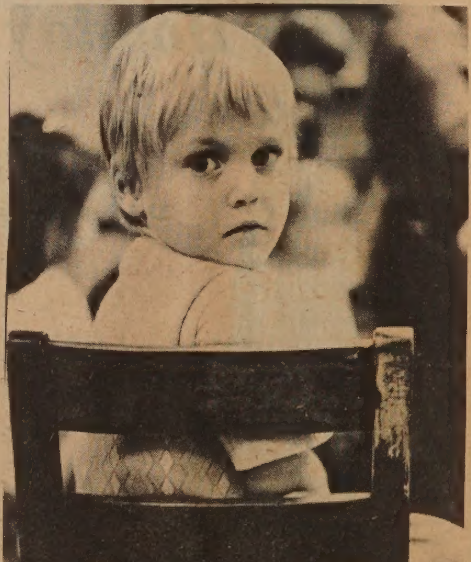


GATHER ROUND – The well-attended weekly story hour frequently finds children pressing in closely around Lee librarian Betty Dennis, the better to hear every word and see each picture.

The Berkshire Herald – Wednesday, November 22, 1972



WHAT'S A STORY WITHOUT A LAP – The children at the Lee Library for story hour frequently cooperate by providing laps for each other, thus saving the outnumbered reader some potential problems.



DISTRACTION – Momentarily distracted by the camera, 3½ year-old Julie Braim quickly turned back to the story in progress, showing an interest that brings children back to the Lee Library every Wednesday.

Photos by JONATHAN LOVELL

1971

10/20/74 Eagle

Lee Library changes hours

LEE — An extra hour will be added to the daily operating schedule of the Lee Library, librarian Betty L. Dennis said Monday.

Beginning this week, the library will no longer close from 1 to 2 each afternoon, but will stay open from 10 to 5 Mondays through Saturdays, Miss Dennis said.

The evening schedule of 7 to 8:30 Mondays through Fridays will remain in effect, she said.

Eagle 1/17/75

Lee Library adds director

LEE — Members of the Lee Library Association last night named Mr. Larry L. Huber of St. Mary's Avenue to a three-year term on the board of directors.

She succeeds Frank J. Kelly of Main Street, who left the board after serving the maximum two terms.

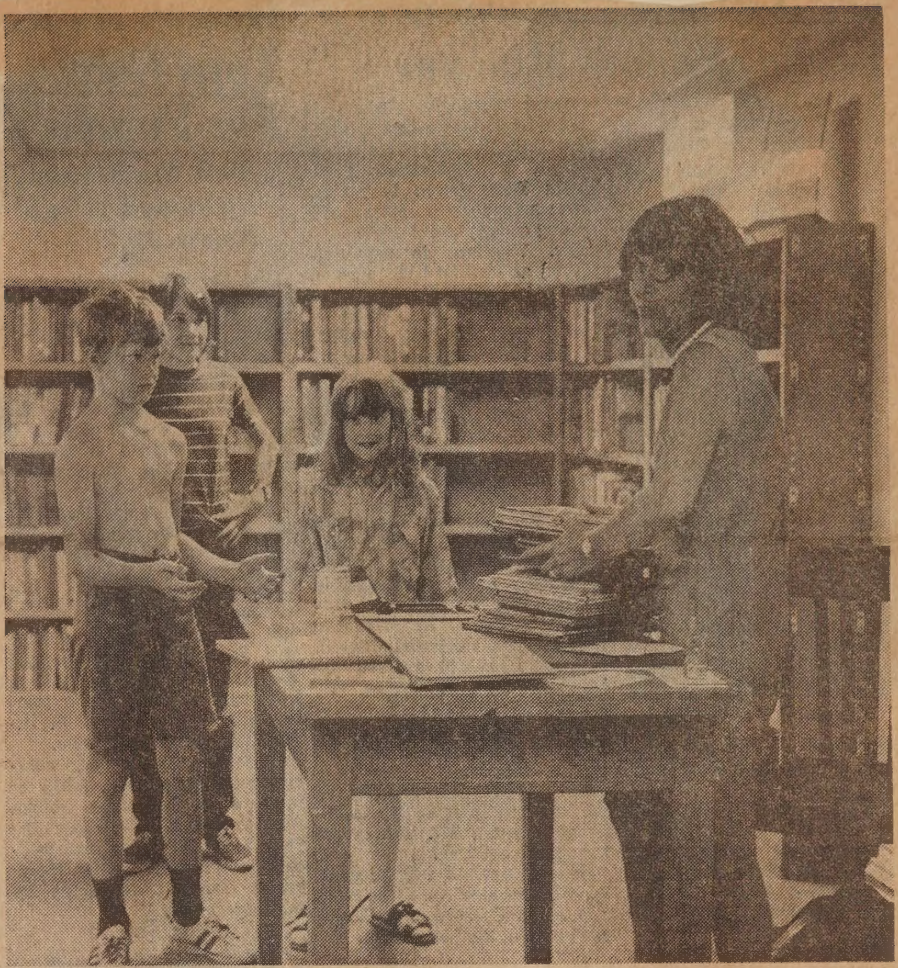
Gathered for the association's annual meeting, members also re-elected John H. Dolan of Devon Road as president for one year, and Charles G. Tucker of Greylock Street as vice president.

Mrs. Tracy B. Ambler of High Street was re-elected as clerk; Francis G. Fanning of Laurel Street, treasurer. Mrs. James T. Noonan of Academy Street, J. Peter Scolforo of Fairview Street, and Tucker were returned to director's seats.

Librarian Betty L. Dennis told the group that 2,674 books were added to library shelves in 1974 and 786 were withdrawn. Circulation for the year was 47,936, she said.

The 1974 circulation figure represents a slight decline from 1973, when 48,139 books were borrowed, according to library records.

Film developing. Fullview and Bonus Photo at low, low prices. McClelland Rexall Drug. —Adv.



Ralph Conroy

DISPENSING BOOKS to young readers in the Lee Library's newly renovated basement is Mrs. John Blache, assistant librarian. From left to right are Dale, Diane and Dawn Rozon of Washington Mountain Road. Renovation was completed last week.

Lee Library Completes Renovation of Basement

LEE — The Lee Library last week completed a renovation of its basement which added nearly 50 per cent more space to the library.

The basement, which had previously been used as a catchall and storage bin, now harbors three well-lighted rooms devoted to children's books and a historical room.

The floors in all four rooms are carpeted wall to wall in burnished gold. The overhead lighting is fluorescent set flush in the off-white acoustical tile ceiling. The walls are a pastel yellow.

Contractor for the project was Western Mass. Contracting Engineers and design was by J. Peter Scolforo, John Dolan and George Frulla.

Space upstairs in the north wing of the library, where the children's section had been, was converted by the librarian, Miss Betty Dennis, into a reference and fine arts room.

There is now a librarians office in the south wing, which prior to the renovation was unusable.

The bills for the project are not yet in, so the cost cannot be determined, Miss Dennis said. The sum of $14,687 was appropriated for the remodeling at the 1969 town meeting, but Miss Dennis says that the cost should be well below that figure.

The historical room features books on town history. There is an old post office desk used by Dr. Hubbard Bartlett, postmaster in Lee from 1818 to 1846, and donated to the library by his son William.

Framed on one wall is an 1872 diploma from Lee High School and, in another frame, six oak leaves arranged in a Caesarean wreath from the Charter Oak of Hartford, Conn.

Miss Dennis says the historical room, which has a long conference table, will be available to groups for meetings.

Berkshire Herald 1972

To the Editor:

Your background feature article, "Towns Have Rich Newspaper Past", in the May 3 "Herald" was of much interest to me, found during a recent visit back to the Berkshires, since I was a member of the "Gleaner" news staff in Lee from 1923-31. First as a reporter and later Local Editor, I was succeeded by Florence Consolatti, subsequently Lee representative of "The Berkshire Eagle."

At that time Maitland P. Foster was publisher of "The Gleaner" and of two other weeklies, the Hillsdale, N.Y., "Harbinger" and "The Berkshire Courier" in Great Barrington, all three being printed in "The Courier" offices. Lee events recorded during my tenure included the town's sesqui-centennial anniversary celebration and the septic sore throat epidemic that led to formation of the Lee-Lenox-Stockbridge milk control laboratory in Lee, said to have been the first of its kind in the country.

Before returning here this week I consulted files of the Lee Library and found bound volumes of "The Valley Gleaner" from Jan. 1, 1857, through the year 1902 inclusive, and of "The Berkshire Gleaner," beginning with the year 1903 through June 2, 1944, when it ceased publication. In the final issue, under J.R. Kenyon as Local Manager, appears a short summary of the newspaper's past. The volumes are neatly ensconced on specially constructed shelves in the library's historical room.

Missing from the files are all "Berkshire Gleaner" issues for the years 1919 and 1921. Any of your readers who still have some of these copies still on hand will be carrying out a great civic facor by getting in touch with Miss Betty Dennis, librarian of the Lee Library.

Best wishes for your success in bringing again to Central Berkshire the welcome services of a local Fourth Estate.

Leon D. Nettleton
Pleasantville, N.Y.

Oct. 31. 1978

John Waring

JANE'S PUPPET TROUPE — More than 350 children were entertained last week in the Lee Library by Jane's Puppet Theatre. The puppet shows, sponsored and produced by the Lee Library Association, were dedicated to the late Jane Cinella.

Lee Library Puppet Shows A Hit with 350 Children

LEE — More than 350 children attended the premiere performances last week of "The Three Little Pigs" at Jane's Puppet Theatre in the Lee Library.

The puppet theater is sponsored by the Lee Library Association and is dedicated to the memory of the late Jane Cinella, a long-time member of the association.

Seven shows were presented last week and were attended by local elementary, nursery and pre-school children. Librarian Betty Dennis said the association hopes to present puppet shows on a regular basis and is planning a different one next spring.

Puppeteers for last week's show were Lyn Shaw, Nancy Warden and Judy Ducayet in the morning, and Judy Salinetti, Diane Cinella and Barbara Unsworth in the afternoon.

Lee High School students built the stage and other association members provided the scenery and the puppets. The contributors included Melva Mushroe, Beverly Piekos, Patricia Mlacker, Eileen Linton, Mildred Dulin, Josephine Blache, Marguerite Tristany and Ms. Dennis.

[illegible]

Ralph E. Brown

LEE GIRL SCOUTS planted two flowering crabapple trees on the library lawn yesterday to replace ones destroyed earlier this year by vandals. Scouts, from left, are Ann Hardiman, Judy LaDuke, Deborah Zanelli and Christine Noonan.

Vicki Sanders

Jennifer Madden

8/1/75

Mrs. Madden head of new library dept.

Jennifer Madden of 26 Elizabeth St. has been named head of one of the Berkshire Athenaeum's two new departments, Librarian Robert G. Newman has announced.

Mrs. Madden, a reader's assistant in the reference department for the past year, assumed the position as head of the young adults department today.

A graduate of Emory University and the holder of a master's degree in library science from Simmons College, Mrs. Madden will be responsible for organizing and operating the department within the new library on Wendell Avenue.

To expand collection

Mrs. Madden said that the existing youth department is merely an alcove on the main floor of the library. The idea behind forming a new department, she said, was to "greatly expand" the number of books in the section and to add reference materials and paperback books to the collection.

Lack of space prevented previous expansion of the department, she said. The new young adult division will be quartered in its own room on the main floor of the new library, thus making expansion possible, she explained.

The other new department, formed last month in anticipation of the move to larger quarters, is the combined local history and local literature division headed by Denis J. Lesieur.

Lesieur, who was hired last month, is responsible for centralizing local history books and those written by Berkshire County authors.

Mrs. David J. Chesneau, executive assistant librarian, said that, previously, local literature volumes were scattered throughout general circulation areas of the library. Now, she said, copies of those books will be kept in the new department for use in the library.

Stephen Fay

SUSAN KORMANIK, Alford town librarian, stands before boxes containing hundreds of old books to be sold this Saturday at Alford Town Hall to raise money for library renovations.

7/30/75

Sale of old books to aid Alford Library project

ALFORD — A sale of old books, including the complete collections of Dumas and Balzac, will be held at the Town Hall here Saturday from 11 to 4.

Susan Kormanik, town librarian, said yesterday that the sale is part of a fund-raising program for the restoration of the library.

Recently, restoration of the library, which occupies the second floor of the Town Hall, has been undertaken, and work will be completed by early fall.

Ms. Kormanik said that the area bookmobile will visit the refurbished library and that a selection of bestsellers, children's books and technical texts will be bought.

She said that the library was active and well patronized in the early 1900s, when the local stone quarries brought prosperity and a large population to the town. The steady decline of population over the past half century has resulted in reduced patronage of the library.

For the past several years, use of the facility has been available on an appointment-only basis.

BOOKMOBILE
BOOKMOBILE

Joel Librizzi

NEW REGIONAL BOOKMOBILE, replacing the one which burned Feb. 10, 1970, in Becket, has just arrived at the Pittsfield Regional Library Center at 11 Wendell Ave. Bookmobile librarian Miss Barbara Morey, left, and Thomas Mooney, assistant and driver, rejoice over its arrival with Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller, a member of the state Board of Library Commissioners, which was responsible for obtaining funds for vehicle. The bookmobile—this one 12-ton International Harvester chassis, custom-built body—makes 96 county stops.

Mrs Peters retiring at Lenox Library

By Joy Allen

Joy Allen

Julia Conklin Peters

LENOX — Mrs. Julia Conklin Peters has retired from the Lenox Library after 40 years, the longest time anyone has ever worked at the library.

Mrs. Peters, whose nickname is Judy, grew up in Lenox and graduated from Lenox High School. She joined the library staff in 1933.

Mrs. Peters, who two years ago married Planning Board Member Leonard H. Peters, said she is retiring because she wants to devote more time to their farm house on Housatonic Street.

"I started at the library as a page, shelving books," she said recently. "Since then we have gone from 40,000 volumes to 70,000 volumes." "The back of the library was then Sedgwick Hall, the town auditorium," she said. "Now it is the main reading room and the Welles Gallery."

Mrs. Peters, who has taken part in library science seminars at the University of New Hampshire and at Simmons College in Boston, said she has served under three librarians.

"Miss Edith Fitch was there when I started. She has since died," said Mrs. Peters. "Miss Irene Poirier came and then went to the Ames Library in North Easton. Miss Elizabeth Daly is currently the librarian."

Among the many jobs Mrs. Peters has done while at the library is running the children's puppet show twice a year with Miss Daly.

Mrs. Peters said this has been her favorite part of library work. "We serve 1,000 children during the puppet-show week in the spring and the fall." She said she and Miss Daly began the shows 15 years ago.

Though Mrs. Peters has resigned her regular duties at the library, she said she will continue to be available for consultation on historical questions about Lenox.

Auction, Friday evening, 7:30 p.m. Mackoul's Auction House, Great Barrington, Mass. Fine household items.—Adv.

12-75

Tyringham Library to house post office

TYRINGHAM — The Tyringham Post Office run by Mary Curtin will close Dec. 5 and be succeeded by an office in the town library to be operated by the town, local U.S. Postal Service officials announced today.

Postmaster Joseph H. Nolan, who is in charge of post offices in Berkshire County, said the town's bid of $6,000 to rent space for a community post office has been accepted by the Postal Service.

He said the new office will be open for a minimum of four hours a day, six days a week.

Letters are being sent to all Tyringham customers today informing them of the change, Nolan said.

10/11/77

Mrs. Kennard assumes post as head librarian in Lenox

LENOX — Mrs. Margarett Kennard has become head librarian at the 117-year-old Lenox Library.

She replaces Miss Elizabeth Daly, who has retired after 18 years in the position.

"The Library has grown and matured more under her regime than under any librarian we have ever had," wrote Lenox Library Association president David T. Dana Jr. of Miss Daley in the organization's annual report.

"We thank her profoundly for her skill and knowledge, her constant aplomb under all circumstances, and her marvelous rapport with the committees, the staff and the public," he said.

Was Tanglewood student

Mrs. Kennard, who first came to Lenox 25 years ago as a Tanglewood student, was instrumental in developing the Merrill Seamans Library at the Lenox School, where her husband was a mathematics teacher for a number of years.

She has also had experience with libraries at private schools in Connecticut and Hawaii and, most recently, at Miss Hall's School in Pittsfield.

Seven-member staff

Her husband currently teaches at Miss Hall's.

Mrs. Kennard now heads the staff of seven full- and part-time Lenox Library employes and reports to the board of managers of the Lenox Library Association.

She is a graduate of Miami (Ohio) University and holds an M.A. in general musicology from the Cincinnati Conservatory. After studying at Tanglewood, she taught music theory and history at Bennett College in Millbrook, N.Y.

She returned to the Berkshires after marrying Kennard, who was then at Lenox School. They now live at Miss Hall's and have two grown sons.

Ralph E. Brown

Margarett Kennard

Small-town librarian

[illegible]

SHEFFIELD — Last week, after 43 years of working in a tiny book-cluttered office, Willard C. French, librarian at the Bushnell-Sage Memorial Library, decided the time was coming for someone else to worry about ordering and cataloguing books. He announced his resignation as librarian, effective next Sept. 1.

When French, who is now 63, became part-time librarian in 1929, the library was in several back rooms at the Town Hall. It is currently west of the intersection of Main Street and Berkshire School Road.

In addition to the move to that site and the building of an addition in the early 1950s, French has supervised the growth of the library's collection from 4,500 to 22,000 volumes during his long tenure. But he's also found time for his many other interests.

* * * *

Currently his pet project is convincing people to vote for Sen. George McGovern for President.

"Originally, I was for (Sen. Edmund) Muskie," French explains. "But last winter I was persuaded by a college student, and a lady older than 80, to support McGovern."

French says he has always been opposed to the war in Vietnam, which is one reason why he likes McGovern. In fact, French resigned from the Democratic town committee in 1965, he says, in protest of the bombing raids in Vietnam ordered by President Lyndon B. Johnson.

French says he has actively promoted his antiwar beliefs in the area by doing symbolic things, such as joining in a peace march several years ago in Great Barrington.

"It was a contest between us (the marchers) and the people lining the sidewalks who jeered us," French recalls.

He will continue to promote his beliefs, French says, by campaigning for McGovern. He predicts that McGovern has a good chance to win in this state in November, but says that a nationwide victory for the antiwar senator would have to be "an upset".

* * * *

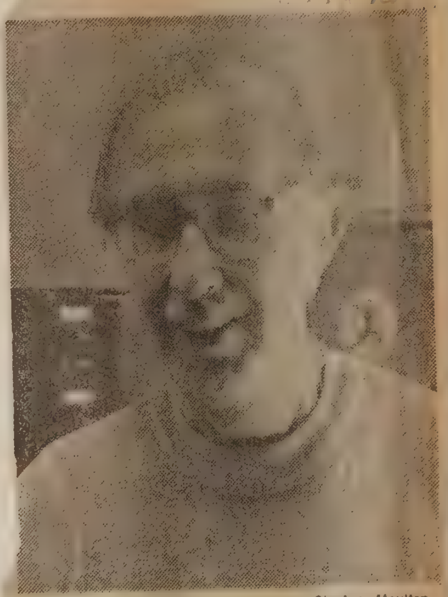
During the 1940s, French was on the Sheffield School Committee for five years. He resigned before his term was up, he recalls, because "for some reason, all the headaches came to me."

French recalls that when he took the part-time librarian's position in 1929 he was paid only $16 per week.

In fact during the 1940s, he had to design houses to earn extra money. He says that he has designed or remodeled at least five houses in Sheffield.

French has several hobbies, including stamp and antique collecting. He also paints oils and watercolors, although he says that his only formal art training was through a correspondence course.

Hanging in French's office is a landscape which he painted in 1969. It depicts the outline of Vietnam superimposed on a landscape dotted with corpses, and a skull placed on a cross. In the sky is the figure of a man on the moon.



Stanley Moulton

Mr. French: switched to McGovern

He painted the picture, French explains, to show the incongruity of man's achievement in space coming at the same time as the Vietnam war.

* * * *

French, whose wife, Verna, died in 1962, lives on Plymouth Lane with his son and daughter-in-law and family. French's daughter lives in New Milford, Conn.

French grew up in Sheffield and was valedictorian of the 1927 class at Sheffield High School. "That honor didn't mean so much though," French recalls, "because there were only seven of us in the senior class." Sheffield High has since been replaced by Mt. Everett Regional.

French says that he had never had any formal training as a librarian before he assumed his job at Bushnell-Sage library, but has since taken several correspondence and summer courses. He was certified as a librarian by the Commonwealth in 1950.

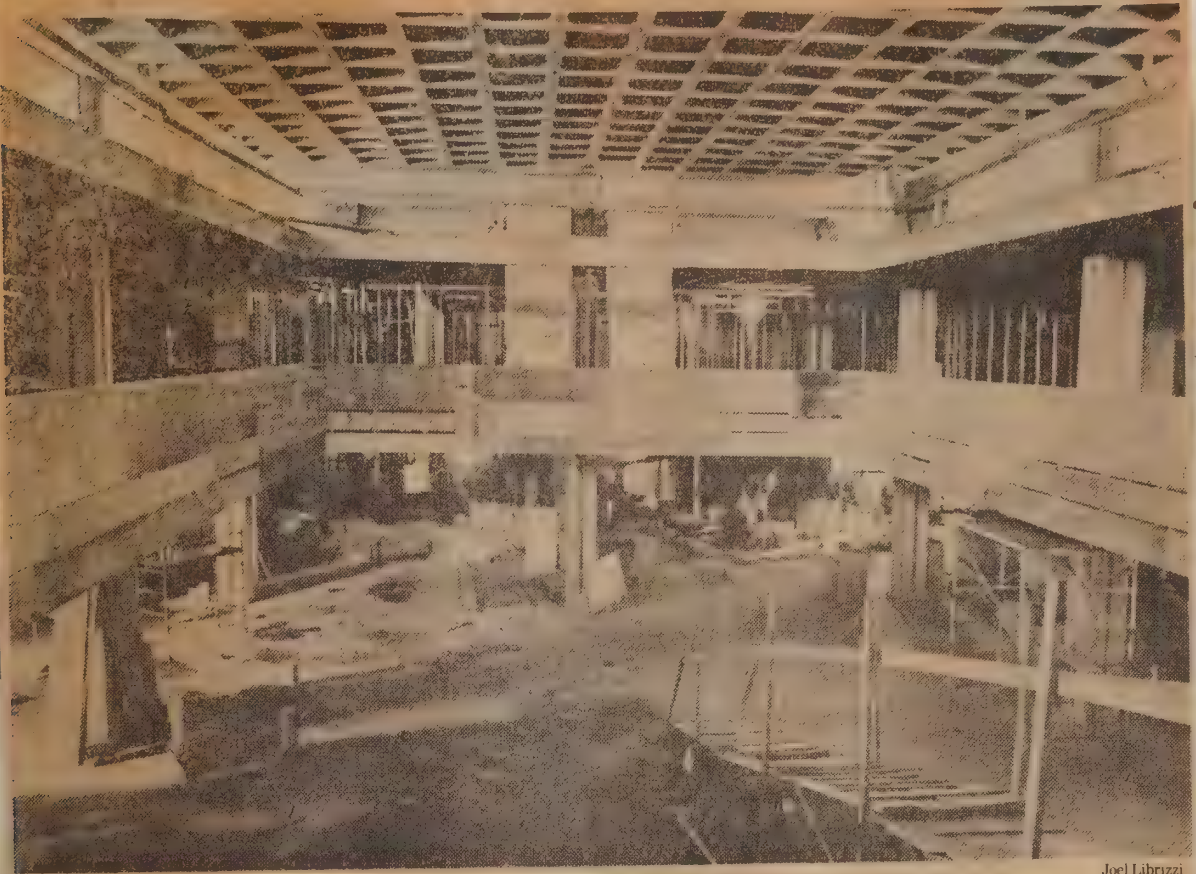
"However, I don't think that the state was too stringent in its certification examination," French declares. "All I had to do was to fill out a questionnaire which came in the mail."

His biggest accomplishment during his 43 years as librarian?

French says he is proudest of having increased the library's collection of non fiction and reference works.

"People can learn in a library," French explains, "even if they don't have a penny to go to college. I think the best way that a library can help a town is to have resources so that anyone can go to the library and discover something that is beyond the range of everyday experiences."

Feb 4, 1975 Eagle



Joel Librizzi

WOODEN GANGWAY at lower right connects the first and second floors of the new Athenaeum.

Athenaeum is ahead of schedule

Work on new library could be completed by July

By Rinker Buck

It's slippery as the dickens inside here now, but that will be fixed up before we move in."

Gesturing toward the small ponds of ice on the construction-site floor, Berkshire Athenaeum Librarian Robert G. Newman begins a tour of the new library building with this warning. The $2.5 million structure on the corner of Wendell Avenue and East Street is beyond the halfway point, and because Newman makes an almost daily tour of the site, he has become as expert as a professional promoter in explaining the plans for the building.

He hands out yellow hard hats to visitors, dons one himself, and enters the cavernous main reading room where masons are warming themselves and large piles of brick at the fiery end of a kerosene-fuled space heater.

* * * *

Newman's warning is appropriate. The area where the book stacks and the music and arts library will lie now looks like a huge boathouse flooded out in the dead of winter. There is a long wooden gangway, wide enough for wheelbarrows, connecting the first and second floors, and temporary stanchions are still braced between the floor and the ceiling at some points.

Newman said hello to Rudolph Sarna, who, for a clerk of the works, is impeccably dressed in construction boots, a heavy plaid coat, dress shirt and tie. Sarna said the building is slightly ahead of schedule because of the mild fall and winter "and if we have a mild spring, we can be done by July."

Rinker Buck

Librarian Robert Newman

A hard-hat promoter

There have, however, been some delays in putting on the roof. General contractor Joseph Francese, Inc., is initiating changes to see that the roof is applied on schedule, Newman said.

* * * *

Sarna said there are 25 to 30 workers on the site each day. The building, except for window spaces that are covered with plywood, is completely closed in. It is approximately 50,000 square feet, compared to the old Athenaeum building's total space of 22,000 square feet.

Most of the workers, their breath condensing into frosty clouds as they yell to each other above the noise of the space heaters, are walling in the expansive brick surfaces on the first two floors. The book stacks have been designed to go into the interior so they will not be separate from the main reading room, and floor supports for several of them have already been laid.

Other features of the modern structure that have been built in as part of the essential framework are booths for coin-operated typewriters, ramps and elevators for the handicapped, state bookmobile parking bays in the cellar, book elevators and a waffle-shaped ceiling that is designed to catch natural light and reflect it to the readers below.

* * * *

On the second floor, where long rows of cinder blocks and bricks now sit, will be the Thomas Allen, the Herman Melville, the local history and Berkshire authors' rooms. Newman is particularly proud of the number of inquiries from scholars and students the Athenaeum receives about Berkshire authors, from 18th century theologian Jonathan Edwards to contemporary lights like Norman Mailer and Stefan Lorant.

"Now, perhaps, these same scholars might enjoy coming here and spending a few days in the Athenaeum while doing their research," Newman said.

Newman's office, on the northern corner of the building, will be more spacious than his present ground-floor room at the old Athenaeum, and will command one of the best views in town of Park Square.

Karen Klopfer

Photos by Joel Librizzi

Mary C. Baxter

Eagle 10/11/74

Two new librarians join Athenaeum staff

Two new librarians, both graduates of the master's program in library science at the State University of New York in Albany, began work this week at the Berkshire Athenaeum.

Karen Klopfer, 25, replaced Brenna Louzin as the bookmobile librarian. Miss Louzin resigned her position at the Athenaeum to move to Boston.

Mary C. Baxter, also 25, replaces Brenda Thomas of Old Chatham, N.Y., as the Athenaeum children's librarian. Mrs. Thomas, who drove here everyday from Old Chatham, has accepted a job nearer home as school librarian at the elementary school in Chatham, N.Y., head librarian Robert G. Newman said.

Miss Klopfer is a native of Binghamton, N. Y., and did her undergraduate studies at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Plattsburgh. Miss Baxter, a native of Buffalo, N.Y., did both her undergraduate and graduate work at SUNY in Albany.

Miss Baxter has worked for the past two years as an elementary school librarian at Saratoga Springs, N. Y., and has worked with a children's theatre program affiliated with the university in Albany.

Both new librarians plan to live in Pittsfield.

Stanley Moulton

Miss Dusenbury in her renovated office.

Miss Dusenbury retiring after 30 years at library

STOCKBRIDGE—Miss Eleanor J. Dusenbury, whose 30 years with the Stockbridge Library include 16 as head librarian, will retire Dec. 31. The announcement was made "with regret" by the trustees of the Stockbridge Library Association.

When Miss Dusenbury first came to work it was, she thought, just for the summer. "Music was my business," she says. She had studied piano at the Julius Hartt School of Music in Hartford, and with private teachers as well. She was not sure she wanted a career as librarian, but when the trustees of the library offered her an appointment for a year, she took it, and stayed on.

Services grow

The library has grown under Miss Dusenbury's direction. Since she became head librarian, the total number of books has risen from 33,299 to 44,654. The children's department has been greatly expanded. There is now a program devoted to teaching grade-schoolers how to use catalogues and reference works. In the winter the preschoolers have story hours. This past summer, the children's reading program broke all records for number of books completed.

The project nearest to Miss Dusenbury's heart has been the transformation of a dark, dirty, cobwebbed basement into a spacious, well-lighted office, a two-year project.

'We've had fun'

"We've had fun," Miss Dusenbury says. "Every day is different here; famous authors come to do research in the Historical Room, we give Christmas and Easter parties for children over at the Corner House and the Madrigal Society rehearses here."

The job also has had its memorable moments. One she can remember is the day a little boy came in and asked for a book on snakes—"of course we have quite a nature collection." So she asked what kind of snake, and he said "This kind!" and pulled out of his back pocket "a live, wriggling, green-and-yellow-striped garter snake. He laid it down on the old glass-topped counter right in front of me."

'Isn't it pretty?'

"Isn't it pretty?" he asked.

"And I answered, 'Yes, it is, but please, put it back now.'

"I do believe that that snake book was the fastest charge-out I ever made."

Miss Dusenbury was born and brought up in Stockbridge. She graduated from what was known at that time as the Williams High School here. For 26 years she was the organist at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. She has no particular plans for the immediate future, but she definitely intends to continue to make her home here, at the Balburnie Apartments on Main Street. She has several hobbies—crewel work, interior decoration, a record collection—and, naturally, reading. "I always have my nose in a book," she explains.

1974

Sparks named permanent Lee policeman

LEE — The Selectmen Monday granted Alan B. Sparks of Cliffwood Street a permanent appointment as an officer with the Police Department.

Sparks, who is 28, has held a provisional appointment since 1968. He took civil service examinations for the post, a prerequisite for permanent appointment, a year ago, but was not listed by the state Office of Civil Service as eligible for the appointment until last week.

Low priority

Under a formula designed by the agency to enhance hiring prospects for minority and low-income applicants statewide, Sparks had been placed in a category with a low hiring priority, according to Selectman Martin H. Deely.

Applicants in higher categories had to receive permanent appointments to police departments throughout the state before those in Sparks's category could be considered, Deely said Monday.

Deely said that although civil service lists indicating eligible applicants did not specify the category they were assigned to, so far as he knew no minority or low-income candidates had applied for Lee positions.

Three other persons in the Police Department also hold provi sional appointments and are seeking permanent ones.

Other business

In other action Monday, the Selectmen:

—Accepted requests for bids on an alarm encoder and 12 receivers submitted by Fire Chief Ottavio B. Giarolo and set July as the date for opening the bids;

—Accepted requests for bids for a new ambulance submitted by Ambulance Committee members Kenneth J. LaBier and William E. Noonan and set July 1 as the date for opening the bids;

—Received specifications for a computerized tax-billing system from the assessors and discussed the establishment of a subcommittee composed of representatives from Berkshire Bank & Trust Co., Berkshire Community College and Lee National Bank to examine the specifications. Those three institutions have expressed an interest in providing the service.

Lee Selectmen Name Policeman

LEE — The Selectmen last night appointed Leon Litchfield, 24, of 394 Chapel St. to serve on the local police force.

Litchfiled would fill the vacancy left by the dismissal of Patrolman J. Peter Lahert in early May if Litchfield accepts the appointment. He would start at $110.80 a week and reach $144.04 after three years.

Selectmen Chairman Andre W. Jaouen said the six-month delay in filling the vacancy was unavoidable. He added, "I don't think we would have had any trouble if the department had not been under Civil Service."

Lahert was dismissed from the force at the recommendation of Police Chief John J. Boyne. Shortly thereafter, Lahert received certification as a patrolman from the Civil Service and applied to the Selectmen to fill the vacancy created by his own dismissal.

The Selectmen exhibited an obvious reluctance to rehire him were unable to fill the post in the absence of any other certified applicants.

Litchfield submitted an application several weeks ago. It was not disclosed by the Selectmen whether Litchfield would serve as a provisional patrolman or would be a regular member of the force under Civil Service.

10-1-70

2-22-1974

Lee policeman is killed in crash

Leon E. Litchfield, 27, a Lee town policeman, died early this morning from injuries suffered in a one-car crash on icy Williams Street in Pittsfield.

Mr. Litchfield, of 394 Chapel St., Lee, died of multiple internal injuries at the Pittsfield General unit, BMC, according to Dr. Irving I. Rubin, medical examiner.

Pittsfield police said his car was eastbound in the 700 block of Williams Street when it apparently hit a patch of ice and skidded 124 feet into a utility pole.

The accident happened about 1:15 a.m. Mr. Litchfield died shortly before 2:30 after being taken to the hospital by the Pittsfield police ambulance.

He had been a Lee police officer since October 1970.

He was born in Hinsdale and graduated from Wahconah Regional High School in 1964. Before becoming a policeman, he worked at Clark-Aiken and Lenox Machines.

He is survived by his wife, the former Patricia Dupont of Lee; two sons, Leon E. Litchfield, Jr. and Brian R. Litchfield; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Litchfield of Hinsdale; 10 brothers, Peter, George and Edward, all stationed with the U.S. Navy, Arthur of Pittsfield, and Elmer, Maurice, Paul, Richard, Carl and Ross, all of Hinsdale, and seven sisters, Mrs. David Smith, Mrs. Harold Scutt and Mrs. Edward Girard, all of Pittsfield, Mrs. Mark Gaylord of Berkshire, Mrs. David Cahalan of South Lee, and Rebecca and Robin Litchfield of Hinsdale.

Funeral services will be Sunday afternoon at 2 at the Kelly Funeral Home in Lee. Burial will be in Maple Street Cemetery in Hinsdale in the spring. Calling hours at the funeral home will be Saturday evening from 7 until 9.

New Athenaeum is dedicated; room is named for Newman

10-6-75

By Vicki Sanders

Some 450 people attending yesterday's dedication of the new $2.5 million Berkshire Athenaeum were the first to learn that the library's 400-seat multipurpose room has been named for Librarian Robert G. Newman.

Reacting with surprise at the announcement, Newman, librarian since 1947, told the gathering, "This honor touches me very much."

Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller, president of the trustees of the Berkshire Athenaeum, made the announcement in the middle of an hour-long program of speeches by Mayor Evan S. Dobelle; Rep. Silvio O. Conte, R-Mass.; John A. Humphry, assistant commissioner of education for libraries in the State of New York; and Henry A. Murray, professor emeritus of psychology at Harvard University and donor of the library's Herman Melville Room.

In a speech filled with anecdotes about his discovery of and dedication to Melville, Murray said the new library, with its Melville room "will prove to be the most superlative building of its nature in the country."

Ghost present

"This, of course, may not be true," he continued, "but I have a whim of iron and I say this as my private conviction."

Quoting a poet who once referred to Melville's "Moby-Dick" as the "crown of one's reading life," Murray said it was only fitting and "especially mportant" that Melville, who wrote the novel while living at Arrowhead here, should be recognized in the Berkshires, in Pittsfield and at the Athenaeum.

"I believe his ghost is present at this meeting," Murray said. "I've had intimations to that effect."

Several other notables from the library's past were present at the dedication. Traveling here from his home in the Palos Verdes Peninsula in California was Lincoln S. Cain, retired partner of the law firm of Cain Hibbard & Myers, who is honorary trustee of the library and past chairman of its new building committee. Randolph H. Wilkinson, a former trustee, came from his home in Hancock, N.H., to attend the dedication.

Prayers of thanks and dedication were offered during the ceremonies by the Rev. Luther P. Durgin of South Congregational Church, Msgr. Joseph I. Johnson of St. Mark's Church and Rabbi Harold I. Salzmann of Temple Anshe Amunim.

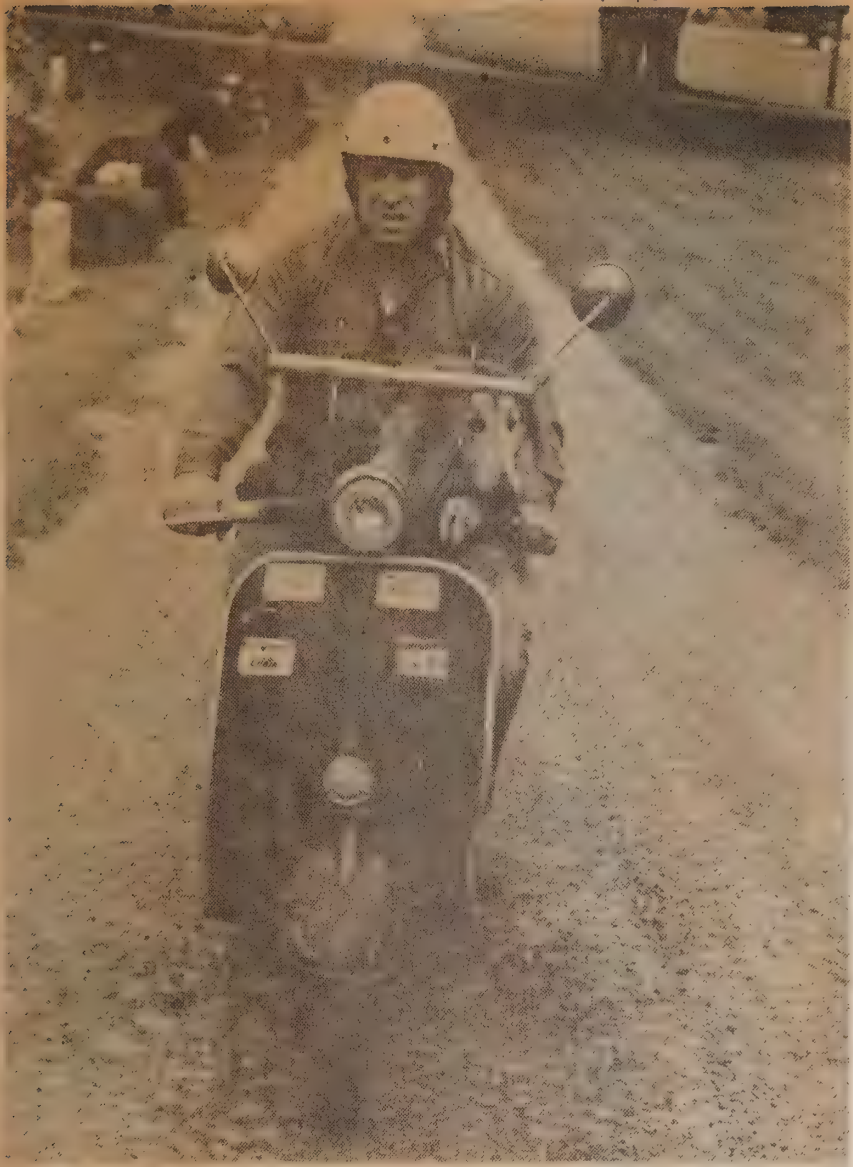
Following tours of the 50,000 square-foot building designed by Pittsfield architect Terry F. Hallock, the cornerstone was laid in the Wendell Avenue side of the building.

Ninety-nine years ago, on Sept. 23, 1876, a similar ceremony took place a block away at the old Berkshire Athenaeum building on Bank Row.

Vicki Sanders

Startled Librarian Newman is informed that the Athenaeum's auditorium-multipurpose room has been named after him. Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller, president of the library board, left, has just made the announcement.

6-19-75



Warren Fowler

Front-seat driver

Edward A. Thomas III, superintendent of the Fairmount Cemetery in Lee, takes his 9-year-old collie, Lad, on a ride through the cemetery. The dog has been a scooter-rider seven years.

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Eagle 5/26/75

The Berkshire Eagl

Humor in academia

Smiles abound at 154th commencement exercises of Amherst College as 5-year-old Stephen Taglieri Jr. receives certificate from President J. William Ward (left). The youth's father (right center) received bachelor's degree. Stephen Jr. became well known to college administrators, who provided baby-sitting service while his father studied. Mrs. Taglieri is the former Christine M. Palardy of Lee. Stephen Sr. is former BCC student.

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12 —The Berkshire Eagle, Friday, June 6, 1975

Stephen Fay

Elden Hopperstad and dog, Bud, pass through South Berkshire en route to Vermont.

Just passing through

Man, dog take to road seeking new life

By Stephen Fay

STOCKBRIDGE — A most unusual pair of travelers will be noticed by area residents this week as Elden Hopperstad and his canine friend, Bud, continue bicycling to Vermont.

Hopperstad, who is 19, and Bud, who is a German Sheperd, are looking for a new way of life.

"I'm sort of running away from home," Hopperstad said. He had been working as an apprentice in his father's tool and dye business in North Haven, Conn. But wanderlust and the wish to turn to farming were too much for this restless and hearty young man. He had a vision of a little plot of land in northwest Vermont. Though neither he nor Bud had any connections in the area, some 350 miles from home, they decided to give it a try.

A southbound reporter noticed the north-bound bicyclist yesterday on Route 7 out of Stockbridge. Hopperstad explained that this was their second day of travel. They spent last night beneath his waterproof behind a roadhouse.

In a makeshift trailer behind his 10-speed bike are a week's supply of clothes, dog food and beans.

Hopperstad dines primarily on lentils and Great Northern white beans.

"They're nothing to brag about," he said.

Hopperstad and Bud, who sits in back, manage to peddle about 50 miles a day. He said that, thus far, he has encountered only hospitality and kindness. People have invited him in for a bite or to use their facilities. Hopperstad appreciates their warmth, but wishes there were a bit less of it.

"Sometimes it gets too comfortable," he said. "If I accepted all those invitations I wouldn't get to camp out at all."

Hopperstad's endurance and hardihood are partially the product of past experiences as a long-distance biker. Last year, without Bud's company, he left his home in North Haven to go South for the winter, Southwest, actually. He ended up in Los Angeles.

Lee's Elderly Housing is a Hit with Tenants

1/30/74

by John Waring

LEE — Selectmen Martin H. Deely recently called the construction and opening of the William Brown Memorial Court "one of the major events in Lee in 1973."

The new residents of Lee's new housing complex for the elderly probably would not hesitate to second his evaluation.

"The Herald" last Wednesday interviewed about 30 of the residents and learned they have nothing but praise for their new apartments, for their new friends, and for the people of Lee through whose efforts the project was built.

The design and construction of the 48 one-bedroom units earned high marks from the residents. "The apartments are beautiful and there have been no problems," said Miss Anna Girardy who have lived in Lee most of her life.

Mrs. Edna Sohles, another Lee resident who moved to the complex last fall, said her apartment was just the right size for an elderly person or couple.

(Continued on Page 12)

John Waring

ONE OF THE CONTENTED — Mrs. Dorothy Jennings, seen here on the second floor walkway at William Brown Memorial Court in Lee, is one of some 60 tenants who are delighted with their new home. (More photos on Pages 12 and 13)

LEE ELDERLY HOUSING ...

(Continued from Page 1)

"Big enough for our needs but small enough so that housekeeping is very easy."

Security Measures Lauded

Mrs. Dorothy Jennings, who moved here from Sheffield, thought the emergency buttons installed in all apartments provide a measure of security that is lacking when an elderly person lives alone in a house or apartment.

She explained that someone in need of assistance can push a button in the bedroom or bathroom that immediately unlocks the front door and turns on an emergency light outside the entrance. "The only problem we've had is when families are visiting and children push the button before asking what it's for," Mrs. Jennings said. "Everybody comes running."

Mr. and Mrs. Frank McGuire, one of eleven couples at Brown Court, have discovered a different kind of security.

"Although we have spent the last three years with our niece in Lenox, we lived most of our lives in Brooklyn," said Mr. McGuire. "Believe me, it's a load off my mind to be here. Our nerves are better and we don't have to return to things like alternate-side-of-the-street parking."

Easy Maintenance

For Mr. and Mrs. John Upright, who came here from West Stockbridge, the new apartment has brought relief from the chores of maintaining a home. "It was getting difficult and we just couldn't keep up with the work," said Mrs. Upright.

Four of the apartments at Brown Court are designed specifically for handicapped persons and Mrs. Margaret Fogarty, who in her 70's and has difficulty [illegible] stairs, said her apart-

HAPPY TENANTS —Tenants at the William Brown Memorial Court in Lee gather for their weekly coffee hour in the community room. Mr. and Mrs. Frank McGuire moved to their new apartment from Brooklyn. Mrs. Esther Bangs, a long-time Lee resident, arranges dishes in the furnished kitchen.

Cont'd 19

Plaque to memorialize former Lee selectman

LEE — The Housing Authority will unveil a bronze plaque at its Marble Street elderly housing project Wednesday at 2:30 formally dedicating the project to the late William J. Brown, a former selectman and member of the authority who was instrumental in starting the complex.

Brown, active throughout his life in Democratic party politics, was also a member of the committee that worked for establishment of Berkshire Community College, and was active in the Housatonic River Watershed Association.

The plaque which was unavailable when the 48-unit development was dedicated last October, will be unveiled by the Rev. Joseph Gagen, pastor of St. Mary's Church.

Additionally, a flag pole and flag at the housing project will be dedicated to the memory of Louis A. Airoldi, longtime highway superintendent and sewer commissioner in Lee, by the Rev. Walter S. Ryan, pastor of the Congregational Church.

Single persons over 65 with incomes of $4,000 per year or couples with incomes of $4,500 per year are eligible to live in the apartments. Rent, which averages $63.10 per unit, is set by the state at a maximum of 25 per cent of the tenants' annual income.

The ceremonies are open to the public. Refreshments will be served by tenants in the complex's community house.

Con't from p. 10

cm.
ment is more convenient than her former home in Lee.

Mrs. Esther H. Bangs also pointed out that all the apartments are equipped with special features for the elderly, such as grab-bars in the bathtub and a non-slippery tile in the kitchen to prevent accidents.

Privacy plus Friends

A key benefit mentioned by many of the residents was the opportunity to have privacy and company when they want. "Some of us are forming activity groups, such as bingo or sewing, and no one is forced to join if they don't want to," said Mrs. Joseph Baldwin.

Arguments among the residents have been non-existent, said Mrs. Lucy Bocock. "I think we all decided we are going to make ti work and that is the way things are going."

She also said that Yvonne duPont, the part-time director hired by the Housing Authority, should be given credit for the friendly atmosphere. "She's a jewel and her heart's in the job," Mrs. Bocock said.

Mrs. Isabella Goodair agreed and joked that the residents "stay neighborly by staying off politics and religion."

Transportation, Books Needed

The residents interviewed had only two suggestions for improvements. One was better transportation to Pittsfield, which they recognized was a problem now being studied by area Councils on Aging, and the other was reading. Several suggested that all the residents would welcome weekly visits of the bookmobile.

In describing how much they like Brown Court, all those interviewed were quick to add that they felt fortunate to be there and indebted to the people of Lee. During the interview Mr. McGuire wrote a new set of lyrics to an old popular song to explain his feelings.

Lyrical About Lee

"'Take a Trip Across the Bridge to Brooklyn' was a popular song many years ago," he said. "Here's some new lyrics that express my feelings about the people in the Berkshires, particularly in Lee."

"Take a trip to any town in the Berkshires,
For that's where I love to be.
Say Folks! There's one dandy old town
And I'm told its name is Lee.
Now if you want to find folks who are friendly,
And ready to treat you fine,
Just take a trip to any old town in the Berkshires,
And—you will find them at any old time."

Photos by John Waring

20

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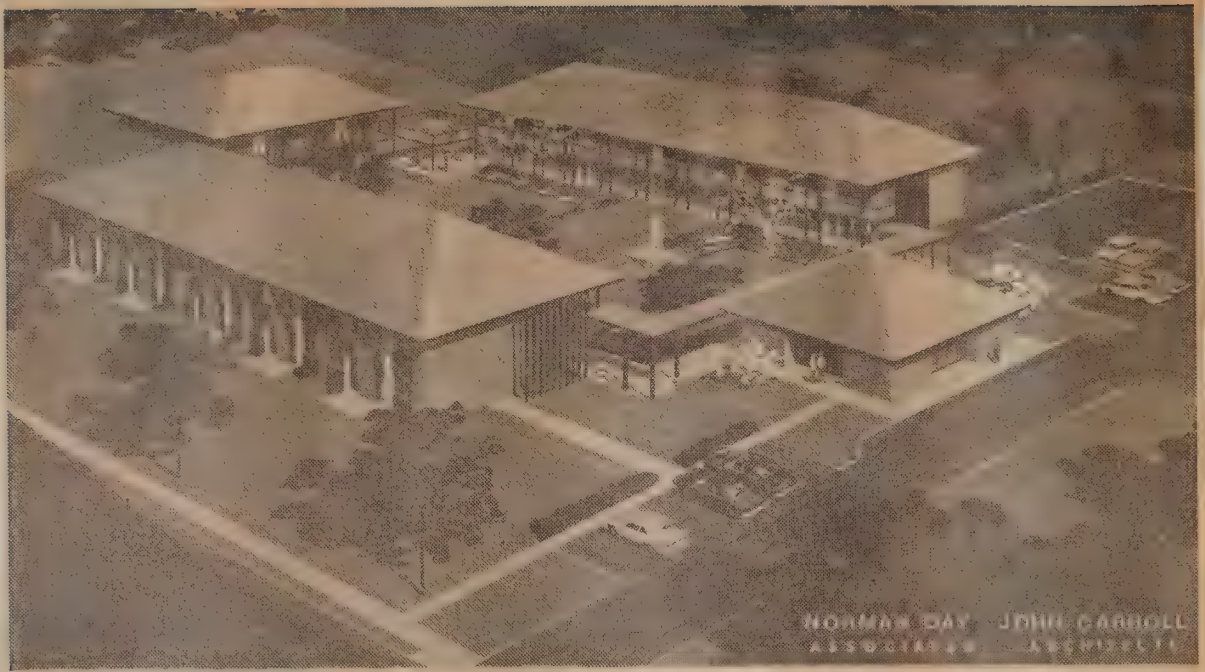

LEE HOUSING for the elderly, for which a building permit was applied for Monday, is planned to look like this. The buildings are designed so they could be erected and enclosed quickly, once a permit is issued. Wooden frame structures would be built on slabs and would have brick exterior. There would be two stories with 48 apartments, each with a single bedroom facing outside the complex. Living rooms would face the central courtyard. Building at right would be activities center. Note sundeck at upper left.

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10 —The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, Oct. 30, 1973

Joy Allen

MOVING INTO the William J. Brown Memorial Court on Marble Street in Lee, are Victor Stringer, left, and his wife, Phyllis. Mrs. Yvonne duPont, center, of Lee, executive director of the housing authority's apartment complex, helps. Rep. Silvio O. Conte called Lee's first state housing for the elderly "a great tribute to the town" at Sunday's dedication.

Elderly housing named after William Brown

LEE — The Lee Housing Authority has announced that the Marble Street housing project for the elderly has been named for a former Authority member.

The project has been named William J. Brown Memorial Court. Brown, who died in 1972, was instrumental in starting the project.

Asked about her husband's association with the project, Mrs. Mary Brown said today, "It was his pet project." Of the memorial honor, she said "I am very pleased."

Brown had been employed at the Peter J. Schweitzer division of Kimberly Clark Corp. for 34 years.

A dedication ceremony will take place at the Marble Street site at 2:30 on Oct. 28. U.S. Rep. Silvio O. Conte and state Sen. John Fitzpatrick and Rep. Sidney Curtiss are scheduled to speak at the ceremony.

Senior citizens have been notified that they may move into the housing project beginning Nov. 1. All but three of the 48 units have been rented.

Single people interested in renting an apartment in the complex who are 65 years old or over with a yearly income of $4,500 or married couples with a combined yearly income of $5,000 may apply to the housing authority.

The housing authority is seeking persons for part-time employment at the complex as a superintendent-custodian and an executive secretary. Persons interested should write to the housing authority by Oct. 15,

Eagle —— 10/9/73

Sale Vitamin C Ta-

October 28, 1973

The Lee Housing Authority
TOWN HALL
LEE, MASSACHUSETTS 01238

THE WILLIAM J. BROWN MEMORIAL COURT, MARBLE ST., LEE.

HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY
Marble Street, Lee, Massachusetts

Architect:
Norman Day - John Carroll
Associated Architects
166 Kemble Street, Lenox

General Contractor:
Joseph Francese, Inc.
551 Fenn Street, Pittsfield

Civil Engineer:
Pharmer Engineering Corp.
39 Mt. Tom Avenue, Holyoke 01040

Mechanical and Electrical Engineers:
Ferraro Engineering Associates, Inc.
43 Spring Street, Springfield 01101

Subcontractors

Landscaping:
Ward's Nursery and Garden Center
600 South Main St., Great Barrington

Paving:
Tri-Town Paving, Inc.
Hill Road, Stockbridge

Miscellaneous Metals:
Ornamental Iron Shop, Inc.
717 Fuller Road, Chicopee Falls 01020

Cabinets:
Driscoll Webber Associates
201 Rowland St., Springfield 01107

Glass:
Berkshire Plate Glass Co.
35 First Street, Pittsfield

Hardware and Plaque:
Hardware Specialties, Inc.
211 Union St., West Springfield 01089

Ceramic Tile:
Associated Tile and Marble Co., Inc.
Box 6125, Albany, N.Y. 12206

Resilient Flooring:
Condos Floor Covering, Inc.
1505 Valencia Road, Schnectady, N.Y.

Painting:
John Payer, Inc.
Box 51, Forest Park Sta., Springfield

Carpeting:
Haddad Rug Co., Inc.
32 Bank Row, Pittsfield

Fire Extinguishers:
Fenwick Fire Prevention, Inc.
32 Curtis Street, Pittsfield

Waste Compactors:
Special Materials Group
120 Middlesex Ave., Somerville

Drapery Track:
Drapery World, Inc.
42 Summer Street, Pittsfield

Plumbing:
Traveling Plumbing Shops, Inc.
9 Long Hill Street, Springfield

Electrical and Electric Heat:
Canon Electric Co., Inc.
Ferncliff Avenue, Lee

TV, Fire Alarm:
Lee Audio Co.
Fairview Street, Lee

Ventilation:
Pittsfield Pipers, Inc.
129 Francis Avenue, Pittsfield

300 ATTEND DEDICATION OF LEE ELDERLY HOUSING COMPLEX

LEE — Dedication ceremonies for the elderly housing complex were attended Sunday by about 300 people, including representatives of federal, state and local governments.

The 48-unit complex on Marble Street, named the William J. Brown Memorial Court was completed two months ahead of schedule and the first tenants are expected to move in this week.

Congrssman Silvio O. Conte, who was present for the groundbreaking ceremonies last January, praised Lee residents' concern for their senior citizens. "There is no better yardstick of a community's vitality and concern for its citizens than the degree to which it cares for its elderly citizens," Congressman Conte said.

Also speaking at the ceremonies were The Rev. Walter S. Ryan, member of the Lee Housing Authority; Frank Consolati, chairman of the authority; Yvonne duPont, the project's executive director; Selectmen Martin H. Deely and John J. Wheeler; State Senator John H. Fitzpatrick and State Representatives Sidney Q. Curtiss and Dennis Duffin.

Following the ribbon cutting, the residents toured the apartments and community center of the complex.

A splendid gesture in Lee

To the Editor of THE EAGLE:—

I find it difficult to express my gratitude to the citizens of Lee in regard to their splendid gesture in dedicating the housing for the elderly in memory of my father, William J. Brown.

My own little boy is asleep in the next room. One day he and I shall take a walk to the housing project and if it is not too bright—twilight would be best — we will stop and I'll try to tell my son why the people of his grandfather's town felt so warmly about him that they made this dedication.

He was a kind, gentle man who spent his entire life in the narrow confines of Lee and Lenox Dale yet possessed a perspicacity in broad political concepts that was absolutely amazing. (I have participated in numerous political science courses on a college level and, although I'm not exactly objec-

professor who grasped the fundamentals of this science as thoroughly as my father.)

He was, like most New Englanders, a reserved man in regard to his outward emotions. However there was an ambience of love with his family and devotion to his friends. And again — so like that remarkable area of his residence — a complete tolerance of those whose opinions differed with his own. He was proud of his hometown and although he complained often of the severity of the winters, he would not have felt comfortable anywhere else but Berkshire County.

He died there in the house where he spent the majority of his life — better somehow than in a strange, sterile hospital.

It will be impossible to capture the essence of my father for my son. If I'm able to make him understand why my father was a man worth knowing — perhaps the most unpretentious and least arrogant man I've known — it will be sufficient. Indeed, my son may be proud of his heritage.

This singular honor, the action of the community of Lee, has made the loss felt by my mother, brothers and myself a bit more bearable.

DENNIS P. BROWN

1320 Milford
Houston, Tex.

Quotes

I hate emotion in anything, even in religion. If you can master the facts, then you can posture yourself in such a way that you can persuade people of your point of view.

—Henry Jackson, senator from Washington, interviewed in Time.

Eagle 10/30/73

Lee Elderly Housing Group Elects Officers

LEE — May Bocock has been elected chairman of the Evergreens, an activity group recently organized by tenants of the William Brown Memorial Court, the new elderly housing complex on Marble Street.

John Madden was named treasurer and Ruth Markham the secretary of the group, which adopted the complimentary title applied to senior citizens in Norway.

Activities scheduled at the court include arts and crafts on Mondays, bingo parties every other Tuesday evening, a Wednesday morning coffee hour, and card games and music sessions on Thursday afternoons. In addition to these activities, held in the recreation room, the Lee Chamber of Commerce has donated a television for use by the residents.

Victor Stringer, a former chef, and his wife Phyllis prepared a roast beef dinner last week sponsored by the Evergreens and attended by 50 residents. Several members are also planning a trip to Washington D.C. to view the cherry blossom festival.

Berk Eagle 2/27/74

Area Engineers Prepare

Mr. Ryan seeks exemption for Lee elderly housing

8/22/72

LEE — The Rev. Walter S. Ryan, chairman of the Lee Council on Aging, has urged that the proposed 48-unit project for the elderly be exempted from the town's moratorium on apartment building.

The moratorium, which went into effect in June, will be voted on by town meeting representatives Thursday. Town Council Henry M. Donahoe ruled that the housing project for the elderly comes under the moratorium. Frank P. Consolati, chairman of the Lee Housing Authority, has agreed not to try to kill the moratorium, as he had first threatened, but to apply for a special permit and variance from the moratorium through the Zoning Board of Appeals should the moratorium be passed.

If the moratorium were defeated there would no longer be major roadblocks in the way of the housing authority's receiving a permit for the project. However, a variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals would still be necessary since the town counsel has ruled that the plans do not conform to the density regulations.

The wrong target

In a letter to the Selectmen, town meeting representatives and other town officials, Ryan argued that the proposed housing for the elderly project had "lifted the hopes of many of our older citizens that soon they may be housed comfortably at a cost commensurate with their meager incomes."

"There is a general depression setting in because of the possible delay over the moratorium on housing in Lee," the letter continues. "Members of the council feel that in this case human need comes before legal demands and arguments. Since the project was approved a long time ago, and the needs of the aged clearly defined in this matter by local, state, and national surveys, there seems little need for further delay which might set back construction another year."

Ryan also said that the moratorium, which followed a petition by 734 registered voters, was intended to stop large outside developments, not the project for the elderly. He added that the project should have been ruled exempt from the moratorium.

The letter continues: "Every month's delay means that some older folks are depleting their financial resources by paying rents of over $100 per month, or struggling to keep houses open beyond their physical and financial resources. We, therefore, urge you to do all you can to clear the tracks for the work to start on this program which has made such good progress up to now and is a design which the council feels will be an asset to our town and community."

Mr. Ryan is pastor of the First Congregational Church.

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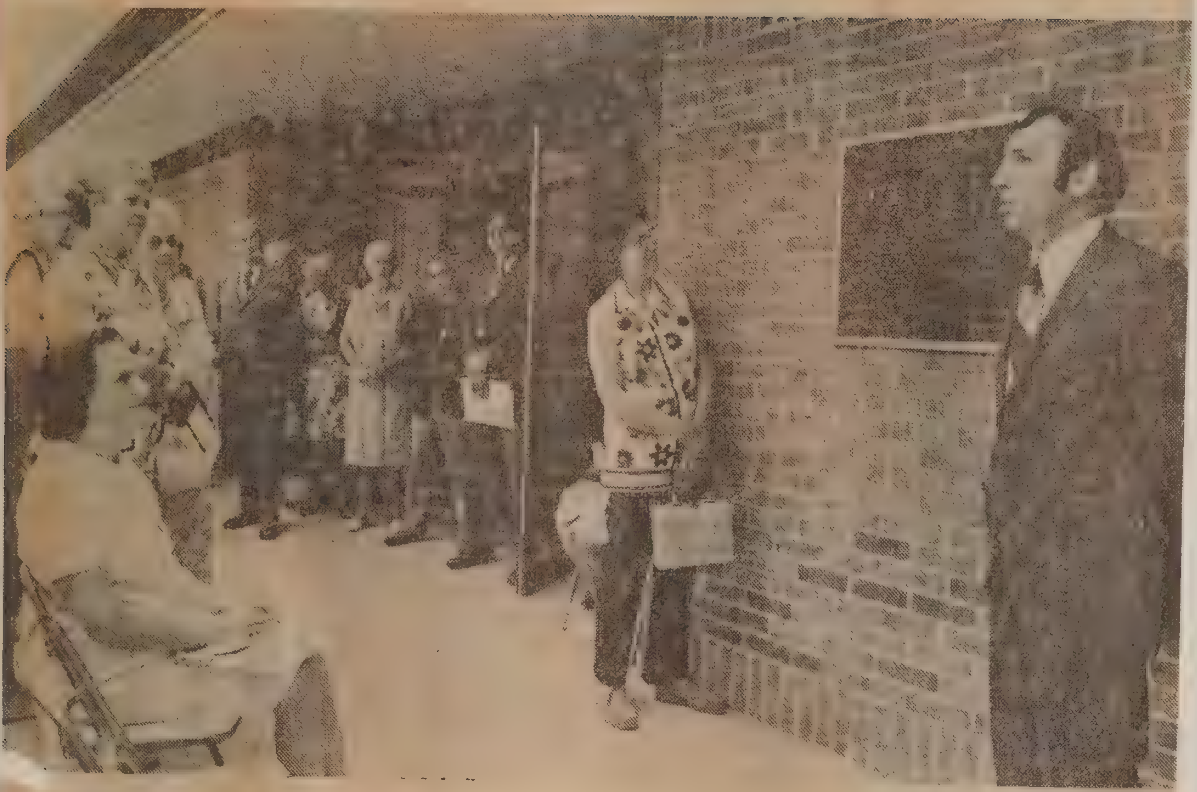
20 —The Berkshire Eagle, Thursday, June 20, 1974



Ralph E. Brown

CEREMONIES DEDICATING Lee housing project for the elderly to former Selectman William J. Brown were held yesterday and attended by Brown's son Michael, standing right, and his wife, Mary C. Brown, seated left. The Marble Street project was completed last fall, but a plaque honoring Brown was not completed until recently.

Miss Margaret Burke; teacher 56 years

SOUTH LEE — Miss Margaret D. Burke, 79, of Willow Street, a teacher in area schools for 56 years, died Saturday at the Berkshire Nursing Home in Pittsfield.

A native of South Lee, she graduated from Westfield Normal School in 1916.

She taught for one year in the town of Washington, and then joined the Housatonic Elementary School faculty, where she taught Grade 3 from 1917 to 1966. Miss Burke then moved to St. Mary's Parochial School in Lee, where she taught until 1972.

She was a communicant of St. Francis' Church here.

She leaves a sister, Mrs. Hubert Tormey of Springfield and four nieces.

Funeral services will be tomorrow morning at 9 from the Kelly Funeral Home in Lee with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 10 at St. Francis' Church. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery in Lee.

Calling hours at the funeral home are today from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9.

Eagle 12/8/75

12-29-75

Mrs. Gertrude Powers

LEE — Mrs. Gertrude Boyne Powers, 76, of 79 Housatonic St. died this morning at St. Luke's unit, BMC, in Pittsfield.

A native of Lee, daughter of Thomas and Lucy Tyer Boyne, she spent all of her life here. She was a communicant of St. Mary's Church and a member of the St. Mary-St. Martha Sodality.

Her husband, William F. Powers Sr., died in September 1972.

She is survived by two sons, James B. Powers of Lee and William F. Powers of Lynn; a daughter, Mrs. Betty G. Hodgkins of Lee; three sisters, Mrs. Hollings Bridge, Mrs. Josephine Keenan and Mrs. William Thomas, all of Lee, 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services will be Wednesday at 9:15 from the Kelly Funeral Home with a Liturgy of Christiam Burial at 10 at St. Mary's Church. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Calling hours at the funeral home will be tomorrow from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9.

DEATHS

MRS. ELIZABETH THORNE

LEE — Mrs. Elizabeth Grady Thorne, 54, of Cape Street, owner and operator of the Regular Folks Shop on Center Street, died December 11 at Hillcrest Hospital.

Born in Pittsfield, the daughter of the late Roy and Imogene Barber Grady, she lived here for most of her life.

She was a former employee of Howard Johnson's, Inc., the restaurant chain, working as a supervisor in the late 1950s and early 1960s. She had operated the Regular Folks Shop for the past several years.

She was a member of the Lee Chamber of Commerce.

Mrs. Thorne is survived by a son, William F. Tarmey of Colorado Springs, Colo.; a daughter, Mrs. Jean Bona of Lenox; a brother, Edwin Grady of Lee, and 10 grandchildren.

Funeral services were Friday at the Kelly Funeral Home in Lee. Burial was in Fairmount Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society.

MRS. LOUISE SIMMONS

LEE — Mrs. Louise Steuben Simmons, 82, of Marble Street, a native of Germany and a retired cook, died December 13 at St. Luke's unit, BMC.

Born in Bremerhaven, Germany, she came to the United States as a young girl and had lived here for the past 45 years. She was the widow of George Simmons, who died in 1951.

Mrs. Simmons was a cook for many years at Meadow Place and the Birchwood Inn, both of which are in Lenox. She retired in 1972.

She was a communicant of St. George's Episcopal Church and a member of the Lee Golden Agers.

She is survived by her six sons, Harmon V., George, James S. and Frederick L. Simmons, all of Lee, William L. Simmons of Milford, and Norman F. Simmons of Rensselaer, N.Y.; a brother, William Steuben, Germany; two sisters, Mrs. Marie Ramin and Mrs. Catherine Ellers, both of Germany, 30 grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren. A seventh son, Edward, died in 1951.

Funeral services were Saturday from the Kelly Funeral Home with services at St. George's Episcopal Church. Burial was in Fairmount Cemetery.

Eagle 12/11/75

Frank T. Coughlin, 68, ex-school administrator

1964

Frank T. Coughlin

Frank T. Coughlin, who had served as a vice principal in both public high schools here, died in Lakeland (Fla.) General Hospital today from injuries suffered in a one-car accident there six weeks ago.

Mr. Coughlin, who was 68, served as principal in high schools in Belchertown, Great Barrington and Franklin before becoming a vice principal at Pittsfield High in 1956 and was also head of the former technical program there. Mr. Coughlin transfered from Pittsfield High to become vice principal of the new Taconic High School, retiring in June 1971 after 35 years as a schoolteacher and administrator.

Mrs. Coughlin, the former Mary M. Marshall, was also injured in the crash that proved fatal to her husband but has recovered, the Kelly Funeral Home in Lee said.

Born in Watervliet, N.Y., in 1907, Mr. Coughlin was raised in Lee and was a 1924 graduate of Lee High School. His late father, Francis T. Coughlin, was the Lee police chief and his mother, Anna Coughlin, still lives in that town.

Graduating from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y., Mr. Coughlin received a degree in civil engineering. At RPI he was a prominent athelete, playing varsity football and baseball. He was also a member of the school's honor society. He obtained a master of science degree from the Massachusetts State College at Amherst.

About a year ago the Coughlins moved from Pittsfield to Zephyrhills, Fla.

Besides his wife and mother, Mr. Coughlin is survived by a son, Lt. Cmdr. Frank T. Coughlin Jr. of Stuttgart, West Germany; two daughters, Miss Ann Coughlin of New York City an and Mrs. David Adams of Houston, Tex.; two sisters, Miss Ursula Coughlin of Lee and Mrs. John O'Brien of Dunedin, Fla., and two grandchildren.

Mr. Coughlin was a member of the Bishop Conaty Assembly, fourth-degree Knights of Columbus, the School Masters Club of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Principals Association and the Massachusetts Retired Teachers Association.

Kelly Funeral Home in Lee is in charge of arrangements. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery, Lee.

Berkshire Eagle 1/10/1972

Vol. 80 — No. 205 Pittsfiel

Shawn's last portrait, taken last summer at the Pillow by Jack Mitchell of New York.

'Father of Modern Dance'

Ted Shawn Dead at 80; Jacob's Pillow Founder

Ted Shawn, world-famous dancer and founder-director of Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival near Lee, died Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in the Florida Hospital in Orlando, Fla. He had observed his 80th birthday Oct. 22, at a reception at Lincoln Center, New York City. Three days before Christmas, he was taken from his winter home in Eustis, Fla., to the hospital suffering from a longstanding respiratory ailment.

Cremation will take place in Florida, according to Shawn's associate director of Jacob's Pillow, John Christian. Next summer, he said, a memorial gathering of Shawn's close friends and associates will take place at the Pillow. At that time it is hoped that Shawn's ashes may be placed in the huge, sloping rock on the lawn which gives the property the name of Jacob's Pillow. This is in accordance with Shawn's wishes.

Ruth St. Denis Was Wife

Shawn's wife of more than 50 years, Ruth St. Denis, died July 21, 1968, at her studio-home in Los Angeles, Calif., where she had lived since the 1940s. She was 91 years of age. Miss St. Denis appeared frequently on Jacob's Pillow programs, dancing even when she was almost 90 years old.

Last night the worship service with ballet at Thompson Memorial Chapel, Williams College, was dedicated to the memory of Mr. Shawn. The service featured interludes of dance, performed by girl members of the Berkshire Civic Ballet directed by Madeline Cantarella Culpo. Shawn was interested in the Civic Ballet and encouraged its growth in the Berkshires.

Shawn came to the Berkshires in 1930 after a brilliant career with his wife, Ruth St. Denis, and their world-famous Denishawn Dancers, who toured this country and Europe and the Orient. The couple met when Miss St. Denis was well established as a modern dancer and Shawn was taking, literally, his first steps in that field.

Jacob's Pillow Will Continue Shawn Format

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, which is a corporation, will be continued for the foreseeable future in the same format that Shawn had developed during its long history. This is in accordance with his wishes as expressed to the Pillow board of directors.

Direction will be in the hands of John Christian, for several years Shawn's associate director. As Shawn's health failed, Mr. Christian had taken over programming and operation of the festival during the past two summers.

He had started his career with the object of entering the ministry, but contracted diphtheria. The antitoxin that saved him from death left him paralyzed, and he took up dancing to exercise and restore his muscles. Soon the ministry was forgotten, and his dance career opened up. In 1914 he and Miss St. Denis first met as she interviewed him for a part in her company. He was hired, and that year they were married.

Fortune favored the glamorous couple. They founded a school in New York, licensed Denishawn schools all over the country, and conducted a summer school at Westport, Conn. But at the full tide of prosperity, the Great Depression destroyed it all in 1929. As Shawn often said, "During the Depression, no one danced any more."

Here in 1930

That year the couple separated, but remained fast friends and never were divorced. In 1930, Shawn bought the Arthur E. Morgan place, "Jacob's Pillow," in Becket, an old New England farmhouse and barns on 150 acres. He saw it as a hideaway from the hectic New York life. Instead, he developed it first as a base from which to launch his famous company of men dancers, with the goal of "restoring masculine dancing to its ancient and rightful prestige

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Ted Shawn Dies at 80

Continued From Page 1

and legitimate dignity," as he put it.

One of the big problems Shawn met in presenting dance as an acceptable male career was the fact that there were no dances in existence for him to draw on for programs. The idea was so unheard of that no one had even created such works. So Shawn choreographed numerous hardy, virile dances for the Men's Group, drawing from workaday subjects such as his "Gathering the Sugar Cane," and others, and many based on American Indian themes. Of the latter, he often insisted that when he planned to perform his Indian Rain Dance on a program, "the box office tried to dissuade me from doing it. They said it always rained."

His goal was achieved slowly, starting with the first appearance of a professional all-man dance company in 1933 at the Boston Repertory Theatre. Nationwide tours followed, plus appearances in Canada, Cuba and England, so, with his plans at last fulfilled, Shawn disbanded the company in 1940. In the fall of 1941 he embarked on the equally successful dance festival concept.

He organized the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Inc., and planned the present commodious Ted Shawn Theatre, the first in the world to be constructed expressly for dance performances. In the midst of construction, World War II broke out, and the building was completed only with the greatest difficulty because of supply shortages. It opened in the era of war-time gas rationing, and the first audiences reached the theatre on foot, by wagon, and even horseback.

A New Direction

With the war over, Shawn took a new tack. He became an impresario, and brought to the Pillow stars of the then little-known Royal Danish Ballet from Copenhagen. From this first showing, the Danes established their popularity with American audiences, and later the full company came to the United States under other auspices. King Frederick IX of Denmark, a ballet fan himself, knighted Shawn.

Other imported dancers to travel to Jacob's Pillow included Britain's oldest group, Ballet Rambert, and the three major Canadian ballets. He also brought the San Francisco Ballet to Jacob's Pillow. In addition he presented ethnic dancers from all parts of the globe at the famous theatre, as well as leading Negro ensembles of this country.

In addition to dancing, Shawn has written many books on the dance, starting in 1920 with "Ruth St. Denis: Pioneer and Prophet." And for many years he has been recognized as the father of modern dance here and abroad. Among professional dancers he frequently was addressed affectionately as "Poppa," which he loved.

Missouri Native

Shawn was born Oct. 21, 1891, in Kansas City, Mo. He and Ruth St. Denis lived to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in 1964 and in observance performed an original dance number on the Dance Festival theatre stage before an invited audience. His full name was Edwin Myers Shawn.

In reminiscing, Shawn frequently recounted the basic pioneering that created a modern dance center from the rundown farm he purchased in 1930. That spring he moved in with his company of athletes recruited from Springfield American International College, where he had taught body-building and physical education. And like the early pioneers, they interspersed their dance training and rehearsals with the hard labor of clearing the overgrown farm acres, building simple cabins in which to live, and rehabilitating the old farmhouse.

Also, they struggled with the largest of the century-old barns to be employed as a dance-training studio. A smooth floor was laid and a sun-bathing terrace created outside the weatherbeaten walls. At one end of the interior, mirrors and a ballet bar were installed. And here, in the structure that once housed cattle and hay, the first steps were taken that led to the world-famous Jacob's Pillow Festival.

Aided by Strickland

The festival started as informal "dance-demonstrations" that were open to the public at the suggestion of Alexander Strickland, who operated the nearby Berkshire Playhouse summers in Stockbridge. He had attended the regular rehearsals of the men's group held every weekend, when they tried out the numbers they were preparing for their fall and winter tour. He urged Shawn to make them public, which the noted dancer did with skepticism. Admission fee was $1, and

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Fern Helscher, publicity agent for Ted Shawn

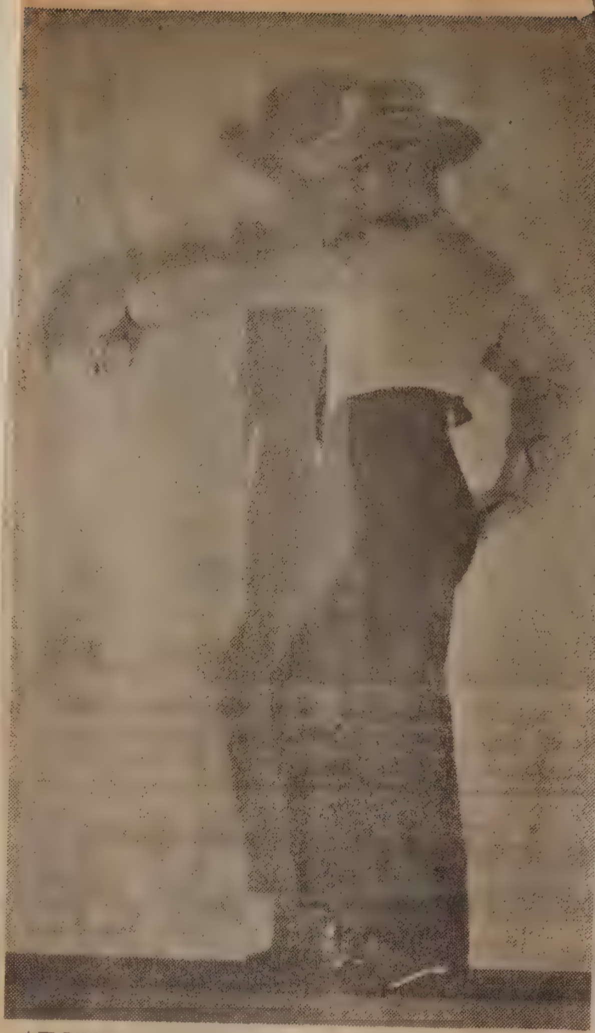
Miss Fern Helscher, publicity head and promotion manager for the late Ted Shawn when he founded his Company of Men Dancers at Jacob's Pillow in Becket in 1933, died Sunday at the age of 73.

She continued at Jacob's Pillow until just before the men's dance group disbanded when World War II started.

In the beginning, Miss Helscher sold tickets for the early performances that took place in the ancient barn-studio at the Pillow. Her "box office" was a wooden table at the barn entrance, and sometimes she also helped serve tea and cookies to the audience.

During the winter, Miss Helscher acted as booking agent for the Men Dancers who during their career gave 1,000 performances across the nation, and whom Shawn commemorated in his book, "1,000 and One Night Stands."

Miss Helscher died on a flight to New York after a three-week tour of West Africa and the Indian Ocean Islands. She had suffered from cancer for some ime. After World War II, Miss Helscher was a press agent for he Jose Limon Dance Company. he lived in New York City.



AT THE HEIGHT of his career, Ted Shawn was considered a leader in flamenco Spanish dancing as shown in this photograph taken at Jacob's Pillow.

everyone was served tea and cakes.

Audiences sat in the studio on folding camp chairs, and when an overflow crowd turned up, which happened after the first couple of weekends, the visitors sat cross-legged on gymnasium mats on the floor. The "stage" was merely a portion of the floor at the east end of the building interior. Car parking was primitive, in a rocky field where today's entrance road curves into the modern parking lot. Buses now use the old field, cleared of boulders, but still grassy.

The 'University'

Meanwhile, more cabins have been built, as well as a number of modern practice studios. Early on, Shawn established a summer dance school at the Pillow, known as the University of the Dance. Dormitories were built on the wooded property to house the 60 or more students who enroll each summer. A modern kitchen-dining hall wing was added to the main house to feed the students, artists, and considerable staff that taught the three chief facets of dance: modern, classic and ethnic.

When the Ted Shawn Theatre was built, Shawn, who engaged the companies and artists to perform on its stage, also decided what programs should be presented. And for each, he insisted on works illustrating those three divisions of the dance. And while the theatre presented public programs, it was basically part of the University of the Dance, and students attended the performances as part of their schooling.

At each week's opening, Shawn made curtain-speeches, an outgrowth of the early dance-demonstration days in the old barn. He would explain to his listeners the outstanding or unique features of the coming program, perhaps some history of the numbers as well as of the performers. As time went on, many of the artists were identified as making their second, third, or even tenth appearance at the Pillow since, gradually, all the important dancers in the nation and Europe appeared there and wanted to come back.

And always, at the conclusion of his curtain-talk, Shawn would go into what he called "my commercial." It was promoting

AFTER WORLD WAR II, a number of veterans enrolled at Jacob's Pillow under the GI Bill. Shown here is a class training in 1946, led by Shawn, front, left, and dancer Barton Mumaw at the drum.

sale of the Pillow souvenir program, proceeds of which provided scholarships for students in the University of the Dance. And sometimes he would "warn" the audience, with mock severity, that the theatre in which they sat was part of the University of the Dance. "You are about to receive an educational experience," he would say. "If you're also entertained, that's an added dividend."

Improvements went on continually under Shawn's direction. The spacious, present parking lot was laid out, a new water tower was erected to assure adequate pressure in the festival property plumbing system, as well as protection in case of fire. The original, hard-metal theatre seats were gradually replaced with comfortable, cushioned, theatre-type seating. And an up-to-date sound system was installed in the theatre to provide recorded music for the dancers.

House Rebuilt

Three years ago, the old farmhouse, which was found on the verge of collapse because of rotted underpinnings, was literally gutted and rebuilt and a modern heating system installed for year-round occupancy if necessary. However, Shawn customarily left in late fall for his winter quarters in Eustis, Fla. There he planned the next summer's program, made lecture appearances throughout the country, set up the faculty for the coming season at the University of the Dance, and wrote his annual, extensive "newsletter." This was a sort of diary recounting events of the past year in which he and the Pillow were involved. He mailed this to a great number of friends and associates just before Washington's Birthday, and headed it "In lieu of Christmas cards."

Shawn's one regret, often voiced, was that his concept of men dancers, which was accepted all over the world, never seemed quite to make it in his summer-home Berkshires. He feels the attitude was summed up after the Ted Shawn dance theatre was opened. "When the next year's town tax bills arrived," said he ruefully, "they classified it as a dance hall!"

ON THEIR 50TH wedding anniversary in 1964, Shawn and Ruth St. Denis posed at the boulder that gave Jacob's Pillow its name for the late Eugene Mitchell.

Obituaries and Fu

John Palmer dies at 81; was Lee Savings Bank head

LEE — John P. Palmer, 81, formerly of Lee, died yesterday at the Avery Retirement Home in Hartford, Conn.

Mr. Palmer was president of the Lee Savings Bank from 1950 to 1964 and chairman of the board from 1964 to 1968, when he retired.

Born in Stockbridge, he had lived most of his life in Lee. He graduated from Pittsfield High School and earned a Ph.D. in chemistry from Brown University in 1916. He taught science in Springfield, Vt., and Greenwich, Conn., for a total of six years.

Mr. Palmer began his banking career in Stockbridge, where he rose from cashier to vice president and director of the Housatonic National Bank. He was elected treasurer of the Lee Savings Bank in 1941.

In 1949, Mr. Palmer was elected chairman of the Berkshire County Group of Savings Banks and was a member of the executive committee of the Massachusetts Savings Banks' Association in Boston.

A past master of the Masons Occidental Lodge in Stockbridge, he was deputy grand master of the Pittsfield 16th Masonic District. He was an honorary member of the Evening Star Lodge here.

Mr. Palmer leaves a daughter, Mrs. John Schoonmaker of Logan, Utah. Another daughter, wife of E. Curtis Ambler of Newington, Conn., died in 1970. His wife, the former Ethelind Brett of Providence, R.I., died in 1961.

Funeral services will be Friday at 2 at the First Congregational Church. Burial will be in Stockbridge Cemetery. There will be no calling hours.

Friends may make donations to the First Congregational Church or to the charity of their choice.

1941

John P. Palmer

William J. Kranz Killed in Avalanche

LEE — William J. Kranz II, 29, of New York died Saturday in an avalanche while skiing at Chamonix, France.

He leaves his mother, Mrs. Edna Hlavac Stap[illegible] [illegible] bridge Road, and a [illegible] [illegible] George McLeod of E[illegible], N.[illegible]

Funeral services will be held in Olean, N.Y., at a time to be announced.

Jacob's Pillow to seek aid to meet expected deficits

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival in Lee will seek foundation grants and government funds to meet operating deficits this year and in the future.

Walter Terry, who his year took over the festival founded by the late Ted Shawn, reported that a deficit of approximately $100,000 is expected this year.

He said the budget this year and for each of the next three years will be approximately $320,900. This compares with a budget of $155,729 last year.

$100,000 deficit foreseen

Income is expected to reach about $200,000 when the current nine-week season ends Sept.1, according to Terry.

He said that although this is a record, it will leave a deficit of about $100,000. But Terry said he is optimistic about getting foundation and government support to meet the planned operating deficits.

Terry pointed out that this plan is a departure from the operation under Shawn, who started the festival in 1933 and financed the project by ticket sales and small donations. Soaring costs make it impossible, Terry said, to continue the Pillow on a self-supporting basis.

Another departure is the step of making Jacob's Pillow income and cost figures public. Shawn kept the financial aspects of the operation secret.

Decline seen

Shawn died in 1972 before that year's season. During his final years, dance critics reported a decline in the innovative and professional quality of festival programs. Terry, who was named director this year, was one of those critics. He was formerly dance critic for the New York Herald Tribune and now is dance critic for World magazine.

"When Shawn got unwell physically," Terry said in a recent New York Times interview, "then he began to settle for what was easy. In his heart and mind, Shawn was the rebel he had been in 1911. But the ability to do it was gone."

The Pillow is in a transitional stage this year. One of Terry's first moves was to rebuild the dance center's public image. On the theory that "you have to spend money to make money," Thomas Kerrigan, the Pillow's general manager, mounted a $40,000 advertising campaign.

New management of Jacob's Pillow increased ticket prices this year to help raise more revenue. The top price last year for tickets was $5. For this season's opener with Dame Margot Fonteyn the top price was $9.50 and the 606 seats in the theatre were sold out for her performances. The regular top price this year is $7.50.

Terry's major long-range project is to present "an entire summer in 1976 that would recall 200 years of American dance — each summer before, we would add more in historical Americana."

Next season, Mr Terry expects to have a suite prepared that will extend back 200 years as a foretaste of the bicentennial year. "We can re-create John Durang's hornpipe," says Terry. "He presented it as the most noted solo of any American dancer in 1785 to 1790. George and Martha Washington saw it. We have the music, description of steps and the costumes."

8/13/73

Michael J. Sullivan; former Lee Selectman

Eagle 5.19.74

1956

Michael J. Sullivan

LEE — Michael J. Sullivan, Selectman here from 1952 until 1956, died last night at St. Luke's unit, BMC, after a short illness. He was 72.

Born in Worcester, Mr. Sullivan joined the Massachusetts State Police in 1928, and retired from the Lee barracks as a sergeant in 1948. He was later employed by the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority as a policeman until its opening in 1957, when he became supervisor of Interchange 1 and 2 at West Stockbridge and Lee. He was supervisor until 1968 and was also employed as a deputy sheriff at the Berkshire County Courthouse for several years during the 1960s.

In 1952 Mr. Sullivan, a Democrat, unseated 13-year Selectman Frank M. Carrington, a Republican, by 67 votes to win his first term on the Lee Board. He was re-elected in 1954.

Mr. Sullivan's wife, the former Geneva Fogarty, who died in 1957, was a switchboard operator in the Lee telephone exchange.

He is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Richard Blain of Springfield; two sisters, Mrs. Margaret Rushford and Mrs. Julia Roach, both of Worcester; and two grandchildren.

The funeral will be Friday at 9:15 from Kelly Funeral Home with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. at St. Mary's Church. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery. Calling hours will be at the Kelly Funeral Home tomorrow and Thursday from 2 to 4 and from 7 to 9.

Eagle 3/4/74

bituaries a

Mrs. Alice Hayden

LEE — Mrs. Alice Galligan Hayden of 26 South Onota St. in Pittsfield, formerly of Summer Street in Lee, died at Pittsfield General unit, BMC yesterday. She was the widow of Joseph Hayden, who died in 1957.

She was born in Dalton, daughter of the late Patrick and Honora Ryan Galligan. She spent most of her life in Lee until she moved to the Pittsfield home of her daughter, Mrs. Edward Maloney Jr., in 1971. She was a communicant of St. Mary's Church in Lee.

In addition to her daughter, she leaves a sister, Mrs. Kathryn Savage of Springfield, and 10 grandchildren

Funeral services will be held Wednesday at 9:15 at Kelly Funeral Home in Lee with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 10 at St. Mary's Church. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery. Calling hours at the funeral home will be tonight from 7 to 9 and tomorrow from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9.

[illegible] 1974

Obituari

1955

Genevieve L. Hutchinson

Mrs. G. L. Hutchinson was hostess, guide on Appalachian Trail

WASHINGTON — Mrs. Genevieve L. Hutchinson, 90, formerly a member of the Washington Historical Commission, died early this morning at the Ashmere Nursing Home, Hinsdale, following a short illness.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., she married Fred W. Hutchinson in 1905. He died in 1950. She was a hostess and guide to the Appalachian Trail hikers. An article about her recently appeared in National Georgraphic Magazine.

She was a long-time member of Trinity Methodist Church in Springfield and was a former chairman of the Springfield Poetry Society, which in 1919 elected her its poet laureate. The group drew such poets as Robert Frost and Amy Lowell to speak and read their works in Springfield. Mrs. Hutchinson also painted watercolors.

A summer resident of Washington since 1920, she began living here full time in 1945. She was an active member of the reunion committee of the Sons and Daughters of Washington.

Among her poems was one about the historic former tavern in which she and her husband lived here.

She leaves a daughter, Mrs. Elmer H. Allen of Washington, with whom she lived; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held in the C. F. Barnes Chapel of the West Cemetery, Bristol, Conn., Saturday at 11. Burial will be in Bristol. There will be no calling hours. The family has requested that in lieu of flowers, friends may donate to the Washington Historical Commission, in care of Mrs. Elmer H. Allen, Windswept, RFD, Beck . Mass. 01223.

12-29-75

Gertrude Stevenson

LEE — Mrs. Gertrude LePrevost Stevenson, 66, of 4820 Kathy-Jo Terrace, Orlando, Fla., a longtime resident of Lee, died this morning at Mercy Hospital in Orlando.

Born in Tyringham, she was educated in Lee schools and graduated from Lee High School and Simmons College in Boston.

Mrs. Stevenson worked for many years as a social worker with the Berkshire County chapter of the American Red Cross and and Family and Children's Services in Pittsfield. She retired in 1971 and moved to Florida.

She was the widow of J. Howard Stevenson, who died last April.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Charles Wheeler of Lee; a brother, Henry LePrevost of Lee; a sister, Mrs. Florence Ransom of Orlando, and seven grandchildren. A son, Lt. Bruce H. Stevenson, a U.S. Navy aviator, was killed on active duty in 1967.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete. The Kelly Funeral Home in Lee is in charge.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Bruce Stevenson Scholarship Fund at the Lee Savings Bank or to the First Congregational Church of Lee.

Eagle 12-4-75

Mrs. Anthony Koloski

LEE — Mrs. Polly Longo Koloski, 60, of 129 Center St., a Lee resident for most of her life, died yesterday at the St. Luke's unit, BMC.

A native of West Stockbridge, she was educated in Lee schools. She was a communicant at St. Mary's Church here.

Mrs. Koloski is survived by her husband, Anthony S. Koloski; a son, Stephen Koloski of Lee; a brother, Eugene Longo of Lee, and a sister, Mrs. Mary Nardi of Torrington, Conn.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 9:15 from the Kelly Funeral Home here with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 10 at St. Mary's Church. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Calling hours at the Kelly Funeral Home will be tonight from 7 to 9 and tomorrow from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9.

Obituaries an

Mrs. G.L. Stevenson; was member of Lee town meeting

LEE — Mrs. Grace L. Stevenson, 74, of Fernside Road, who was instrumental in the establishment of the representative town meeting system in this town, died yesterday at St. Luke's unit, BMC, in Pittsfield. She was 74.

Mrs. Stevenson served as a representative from District 4 (southwestern portion of the town) since the representative system was instituted for town meetings here in 1970. Before she and her husband, Donald M. Stevenson, moved to town about 23 years ago, she served as a town meeting representative in Greenwich, Conn., for eight years. .

A Yonkers, N.Y., native, she graduated from Skidmore College and the New England Conservatory of Music and taught in public schools in Coatsville, Pa., Passaic, N.J., and Hempstead, N.Y., between 1925 and 1933. She was on the faculty of the Child Education Foundation in New York City in the early 1930s.

A summer resident for 28 years, she had lived here year-round since 1964. She was a member of the Central Berkshire League of Women Voters and the committee which several years ago prepared the "Know Your Town" pamphlet.

While a resident of Greenwich, Conn., from 1933 to 1953, she was president of the PTA there. She later lived in New Canaan, Conn., where she was secretary of the Democratic Town Committee.

Besides her husband, former president of the William Morrow & Co. publishing firm in New York City, she leaves two daughters, Mrs. Darius L. Thieme of Nashville, Tenn., and Miss Diantha W. Stevenson of Lee; a brother, Stephen Leo of South Harpswell, Maine; a sister, Mrs. Philip Eaton of Cundys Harbor, Maine, and two grandsons.

Memorial services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at the Church of the Good Shepherd in South Lee. The family has requested that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

6-20-75

Mrs. James Burt; wife of winner of Congressional Medal

LEE — Mrs. Frances Harmon Burt, 55, of Main Street, Hancock, N.H., a former Lee resident, died yesterday at the Peterboro (N.H.) Hospital. She was the wife of James M. Burt, who was awarded a Congressional Medal of Honor for bravery during World War II.

A native of Plains, Ga., Mrs. Burt lived in Lee for seven years before moving to Hancock 13 years ago when her husband left the Hurlbut Paper Co. of South Lee, now a part of the Mead Corp., to become sales manager of the Madnadnock Mills, Inc., in Bennington, N.H.

Mr. and Mrs. Burt were married at Fort Benning, Ga., on March 4, 1942. Mr. Burt received the Congressional Medal for bravery while commanding a tank unit during the battle at the Aachen Gap, which the Germans had opened between British and American forces after the World War II invasion of Normandy by the allies.

Besides her husband, Mrs. Burt leaves three sons, James H. Burt of Orange, N.J., William F. Burt and Edward Burt, both of Peterboro; a daughter, Miss Mary F. Burt of Hancock; a sister, Mrs. Mary Ammons of Pensacola, Fla., and five grandchildren.

Funeral services will be tomorrow at 3:30 at the Hancock Congregational Church. Burial will be in Hillside Cemetery there.

Calling hours at the family residence are tonight from 7 to 10.

In lieu of flowers, the family has suggested donations to the New Hampshire Lung Association in Manchester, N.H.

Eagle - Sept. 5. 1970

120.000

Six days a week, The Eagle goes into more than 30,000 homes to inform a readership estimated at 120,000.

Second Section

'Mother Derby' of Becket Dies at Winsted Hospital

WEST BECKET — Mrs. Ruth I. Derby, 84, known by many in the Berkshires and throughout the world of dance as "Mother Derby," died yesterday afternoon at Winsted (Conn.) Memorial Hospital after a short illness.

From 1935 until the past few years, Mrs. Derby ran a guest house and hunting lodge at her home on George Carter Road. Many students of Ted Shawn at the nearby Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival who later became internationally famous dancers stayed at her house.

An ardent fisherman and hunter, and a crack shot, Mrs. Derby bagged a deer in 30 seasons out of 33 until she gave up deer hunting because of her health in 1967.

As a hunter, she usually used a double-barreled 12-gauge shotgun. She didn't believe in automatics.

John A. VanLund

Ruth I. Derby

Kept Guns Loaded

"Anyone who can't hit a deer with two barrels doesn't deserve a deer," she once told an Eagle reporter. She always kept her guns loaded.

"The guns that kill people are the ones people didn't know were loaded," she explained.

Besides her fishing and hunting, Mrs. Derby also subsisted largely on her vegetable garden and on her bantam chickens.

"Larger chickens are as dull as dishwater," she explained. "Bantams are more interesting. They're more like people."

She also kept an antique bee box, in which she would trap bees and then let them out one at a time as she followed the "beeline" they made to their honey tree. The box once led her to a 55-pound cache of honey.

Once while hunting, she and another hunter got into an argument over which one had shot a deer. They agreed to settle the argument by digging the buckshot out of the carcass, and the shot proved to be the type Mrs. Derby was using. Although chagrined, the other hunter helped her haul the deer home.

Zoning Committee

Mrs. Derby was a member of the first committee to draw up a zoning code for the Town of Becket in the early 1950s, although it wasn't until this past winter that the town finally adopted protective bylaws.

A longtime conservationist, she was a member of the Hoffman Bird Club and an official bird counter and bander for both the state and national Audubon clubs. She took an active part in the preservation of Bartholomew's Cobble and the Col. Ashley House, both in Sheffield.

She was a founder and director of the Berkshire Historical Society and a founder of the Greylock Mineral Club, of which she served as secretary and treasurer for 20 years. She also belonged to the Massachusetts Archeological Society, the Becket Grange and the Springfield Archery Club.

Mrs. Derby was an authority on the geology of the Becket-Chester area, the exploration and study of which was one of her hobbies.

She gave about 7,000 Indian artifacts she had collected in the Berkshires and the Hudson Valley to the Attleboro Museum. She was a member of the Hudson River Conservation Group and the Hudson Valley Historical Association.

Gave to Museums

She gave hundreds of Shaker items to the Shaker Museum in Chatham, N.Y. and contributed many items to the House of History in Kinderhook, Dutch antiques to Fort Crailo in Rensselaer, N.Y., and furnishings for the restoration of the Tynbrook House in Albany. She also gave some of her collections to the Shelburne (Vt.) Museum and to the Berkshire Museum.

A longtime supporter of Jacob's Pillow, she seldom missed the season-opening parties held by her neighbor, Shawn.

Mrs. Derby was born June 12, 1886, in Brookline, daughter of Harry Vinton and Susan Higginson Bowditch Long. Her father, when he died in 1957 at the age of 97, was the oldest living member of the Boston Stock Exchange.

Her great-grandfather was Nathaniel I. Bowditch, American mathematician and astronomer who prepared in 1799 the first American edition of J. H. Moore's standard work, "The Practical Navigator," which he expanded and published as "The New American Practical Navigator" in 1802. More than 60 editions of this work gave appeared since that time and Bowditch's charts are still used by mariners.

Mrs. Derby attended the Carrie Pierce School in Brookline and the Mary Winsor Classes, now known as the Winsor School in Brookline. She married Charles H. Derby, an attorney and they lived three years in Worcester and then purchased a dairy farm in Paxton.

Ran Farm 18 Years

When her husband became seriously ill, Mrs. Derby ran the farm for 18 years, building up a herd of 67 registered Jersey cows which set several records at that time for butterfat production. She served as secretary of the Massachusetts Jersey Cattle Asssociation and also ran a milk route in nearby Worcester. She also ran an insurance agency in the city. Her husband died after many years of hospitalization.

She leaves her sons, William B. Derby of New Brunswick, N.J., and Peter of West Becket; a brother, William Bowditch Long of Carlisle; a sister, Mrs. Susan Higginson Nash of Boston, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

There are no calling hours, and funeral services will be private. A memorial service will be held Sunday, Sept. 13, at 4 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Otis.

In lieu of flowers, the family has suggested contributions to the St. Paul's Church restoration fund.

Will of 'Mother Derby' Provides Scholarships

Sept. 11/70

31

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EAGLE Tuesday May 27- 1973

unerals

Miss Marian Graham

LEE — Miss Marian Thompson Graham, 80, of 115 Main St. died Sunday evening at Pittsfield General unit, BMC.

Miss Graham was born in Lee, daughter of the late Robert and Elizabeth Gillmore Graham. She attended Lee High School and Northfield School for Girls, and graduated from Garfield Park Hospital School of Nursing in Chicago. She was a private duty nurse until her retirement in the 1950s.

Miss Graham, a deaconess at the First Congregational Church, was active in church affairs. She was a member of the Tuesday Club of Stockbridge and the alumni association of Northfield School.

She leaves three sisters, Miss Bess F. Graham of Lee, Mrs. Ivan R. Stidger of Lenox and Mrs Clyde M. Phipps of Cohoes, N.Y. A brother, Thornton Graham, died in 1970.

Memorial services will be held tomorrow at 3 at the First Congregational Church with the Rev. Walter S. Ryan officiating. Burial will be in Fairmount Cemetery at the convenience of the family. There will be no calling hours.

2/8/72

William J. Brown of Lee Dead at 59; Was Active in Political, Civic Affairs

LEE — William J. "Bill" Brown Sr., 59, of 40 Housatonic St., a longtime political figure in Berkshire County, died at his home this morning after being taken ill there last night.

He was chairman of the Berkshire County Development Commission (BCDC) and had been involved in political and civic activities since he ran errands for political candidates while still a student at Lenox High School, from which he graduated in 1929.

Former Selectman

A nephew of a well-known Lenox Democrat and longtime county commissioner, the late Joseph J. McCabe, Mr. Brown was a selectman here for 10 years, deciding not to seek re-election in 1967.

He had also served as president of the Berkshire County Selectmen's Association and vice president of the Housatonic River Watershed Association, of which he was treasurer at the time of his death. He was also a member of the Lee Housing Authority.

William J. Brown Sr.

In 1960, he ran for county commissioner but lost in the Democratic primary to Matthew J. Collins and John F. Shea. In the fall of 1971, he challenged longtime Republican state Rep. Sidney Q. Curtiss of Sheffield, who was seeking re-election. Though Mr. Brown lost, he came closer than most expected to unseating Rep. Curtiss.

Mr. Brown was considered by his friends to be "an old-style liberal." One of his hopes as chairman of BCDC was to reduce the number of unemployed in North Berkshire, a hope which he did not see fullfilled.

In the 1960 race for the Democratic nomination to the presidency, he favored Adlai Stevenson over Sen. John F. Kennedy, going against the trend of Massachusetts politicians. Then in 1968, Mr. Brown favored Sen. Eugene McCarthy over Robert F. Kennedy for the Democratic nomination for President.

Among the long list of civic organizations to which he belonged were the original Berkshire Community College Advisory Committee, which worked toward subsequent establishment of the college.

Selectman Martin H. Deely, who last night spent several hours speaking with Mr. Brown at his home, said this morning he was "shocked" to hear of his death.

Asked what the topic of last night's conversation was, Mr. Deely responded, "Politics, of course."

"He was the last of the great Irish politicians from the old-school," Mr. Deely said. "The town's going to miss him."

Born in Lenox Dale, Dec. 29, 1912, son of the late George W. and Margaret McCabe, Mr. Brown was a graduate of the former Berkshire Business College, attended Brown University in Providence, R.I., and had made his home here for the past 32 years.

He had been employed for 42 years at Schweitzer mills where he was a production superintendent in the condenser finishing department at the Columbia Mill. He and his wife, the former Mary Cornell of Lee, celebrated their 32nd wedding anniversary last Sept. 23.

Besides his wife, Mr. Brown leaves three sons, Michael J. of Rocky Hill, Conn., Dennis P. of Houston, Tex., and William J. Jr. of Springfield; a brother, Henry F. of Conoga Park, Calif.; five sisters, Mrs. William J. Corcoran, Miss Ann M. Brown, Mrs. Floyd A. Knight and Mrs. Helen B. Mahoney, all of Lenox Dale, and Mrs. Clifford F. Reynolds Jr. of Pittsfield and two grandchildren.

Funeral Saturday

The funeral will be Saturday morning at 9:15 from the Kelly Funeral Home with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at St. Mary's Church at 10. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Calling hours are tomorrow evening from 7 to 9 and Friday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 at the funeral home.

ries and Funerals

Randall Walker of Lee, dies, officer of Berkshire Bank

LEE — Randall O. Walker III, 29, of 35 Ferncliff Ave. died yesterday at the Albany (N.Y.) Medical Center after a long illness.

He was assistant treasurer at the Berkshire Bank & Trust Co. of Pittsfield.

A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., he was the son of Randall O. Walker Jr. and Mary Moult Walker and had spent most of his life in West Stockbridge. He was a 1960 graduate of the former Williams High School, Stockbridge.

In 1965, Mr. Walker graduated with honors from Northeastern University with a bachelor of science degree in business management, and in 1966, he graduated with honors from the University of Massachusetts with a master's degree in business administration. In June of this year, he graduated from the Williams College School of Banking. He was a member of the Beta Gamma Sigma, national honor society in business.

Mr. Walker, a communicant of St. George's Episcopal Church, was a member of the Greenock Country Club, the Massachusetts Bankers Association and the Lions Club. Prior to his illness, he was a member of the Planning Board and the Ambulance Squad.

Besides his parents in West Stockbridge, he leaves his wife, the former Karen Antoniazzi; his grandmother, Mrs. Randall O. Walker Sr. of Friday Harbor, Wash.; a brother, John F., and a sister, Miss Cathy J. Walker, both of West Stockbridge.

The funeral will be Saturday from the Kelly Funeral Home at 10:15, with services at St. George's Episcopal Church at 11. Burial will be in the West Alford Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Kanter

Randall O. Walker III

Calling hours at the funeral home will be tonight from 7 to 9 and tomorrow from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9.

In lieu of flowers, friends may make donations to the Randall O. Walker III Memorial Fund for Kidney Disease Research in care of Paul Merlino at Berkshire Bank, Pittsfield.

Apr 2. 1973

Obituaries

Dr. Fred H. Vohr of Lee dies after long illness

LEE — Dr. Fred H. Vohr, 67, of 28 Park St. died at his home yesterday after a long illness.

Dr. Vohr practiced general medicine here for 40 years after completing his internship in Boston in 1932. He retired from practice Jan. 1 because of failing health.

A member of the Board of Health for 36 years, he was its chairman from 1955 to 1970. He helped guide the town to adopting use of its first sanitary landfill site and helped provide clinics for schoolchildren, beginning in 1935. Under his leadership, the board contained a potential polio epidemic in the late 1950s by holding a mass immunization clinic employing the now rarely used gamma globulin vaccine.

Dr. Vohr was chairman of the local Heart Fund for 16 years and was the examining physician for Selective Service Board No. 44 for 25 years.

Dr. Vohr studied as an undergraduate at Penn State University and attended Tufts Medical School and the former Middlesex Medical School, both in the Boston area. He began his internship at Beekman Street Hospital, New York City, and completed it in Boston City Hospital.

He was a member of the First Congregational Church, American Medical Association, Massachusetts Medical Society and Berkshire Medical Society, and was a staff member of the Berkshire Medical Center and Hillcrest hospitals in Pittsfield and Fairview Hospital, Great Barrington. He was a corporator and member of the board of trustees of the Lee Savings Bank.

He was a member of the Evening Star Lodge, AF & AM: Berkshire RAM chapter; Berkshire council, Royal and Select Masters; Berkshire Commandery No. 22, Knights Templar; Melha Temple AAONMS, and the Berkshire Shrine Club.

Dr. Vohr's first wife, the former Dorothy Larrison, died in 1955.

Dr. Fred H. Vohr

He leaves his wife, the former Marian Shaul; two sons, Dr. Fred H. Vohr Jr. of Barrington, R.I., and Thomas D. of Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; a daughter, Mrs. John Niles of Raynham; a brother, Charles of New Hampton, N.H.; two sisters, Mrs. Frederick Smith of New Hampton and Mrs. Joseph Hartill of Gary, Ind. and six grandchildren.

Private funeral services will be held at the family's convenience. There will be no calling hours. Memorial services will be held Wednesday at 2 at the First Congregational Church. In lieu of flowers, the family has suggested donations to the Heart Fund or to the First Congregational Church.

Joel Librizzi

LANDMARK on Holmes Road in Pittsfield is Arrowhead, built about 1780 and once the home of author Herman Melville. It has been purchased by a GE executive.

Arrowhead, Melville's house, is purchased by GE executive

"Arrowhead," Herman Melville's Holmes Road residence for 13 years, is changing hands.

Through the R.C. Robertson Agency of 170 East St., a sales agreement has been signed conveying the historic 1780's-vintage house from owner Mrs. Hale Holden to Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Hoffman of Allendale, N.J.

Hoffman, 40, has been named General Eelctric's Lexan marketing manager in the plastics department. He, his wife Joan and their five children plan to move into Arrowhead this fall, after the sale is completed about Oct. 15.

Historic landmark

The U.S. Department of the Interior has designated the house a "national historic landmark," certifying that "this site possesses exceptional value in commemorating and illustrating the history of the United States of America."

Melville, who wrote "Mobey Dick" at Arrowhead, probably in the room in the northeast corner, lived there from 1850 to 1863.

Situated on a rise, the house commands a view of Mt. Greylock to the north and October Mountain to the east, at least when the leaves are off the trees. Melville himself referred to the nighttime view as a "circle of stars cut by the circle of the mountains."

Named by Melville

The original house (what is today the front portion of a much larger structure) was said to have been built in the 1780's by Capt. David Bush, a settler and a Republican or anti-Federalist who was one of two representatives from Pittsfield to the state convention that ratified the U.S. Constitution. The structure served for a time as a tavern under Bush and his son.

Dr. John Milton Brewster, a prominent Pittsfield physician, acquired the house in 1844 and Melville purchased it and 160 acres of land in 1850 for $6,500. The latest sale price has not been disclosed, although realtor Robertson described it as "substantial."

During occupancy of Arrowhead — so named by Melville — the author wrote the humorus tale, "I and My Chimney," about the houses's chimney, 12-foot-square at the base, which today still serves five fireplaces. As noted by Melville, the massive chimney "soars from the cellar right up through each successive floor till, four-feet-square, it breaks water from the ridge pole of the roof like an anvil-headed whale through the crest of a billow."

After 1863, the house passed through a number of different owners until the Holdens purchased it in 1945. Mr. Holden died in 1954.

"A debt of thanks is owed by Pittsfield to Arrowhead's present owner and her late husband who were responsible for the complete restoration of the estate about 1950," the Robertson Agency said.

The Hoffmans will acquire 14 acres and a barn along with the house itself, according to the realtor.

Aug 11. 1978.

buried 1-1-1975

Mrs. Albert N. Nettleton

A funeral service for Mrs. Albert N Nettleton of Lee filled the Church of the Good Shepherd in South Lee yesterday The Rev Robert A Freeman, vicar, led the service

He was assisted by the Rev J Gollan Root, former vicar who is now canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Springfield, and the Rev Joseph F Gagan, pastor of St Mary's Church, Lee Burial was in Fairmount Cemetery, where the three clergymen offered prayers at the grave

Delegations representing Morning Star chapter, Order of Eastern Star, Evening Star Lodge, AF&AM, and Lee Savings Bank were at the church and the cemetery A guard of honor was formed at the church by members of the Morning Star chapter and by the honorary bearers

Honorary bearers were Warren A Briggs, Henry M Donahue, Joseph Liss, Harold L Pasco, Charles M Tacy and Charles G Tucker, all of Lee, William D Roche of Lenox, Edmund G Wilcox of Stockbridge, and Bruce Alexander and Walter N Cooper, both of Pittsfield.

Bearers were James I Brown, Francis G Fanning, D Allan Fraser, Frederick A. Judd, Leon E Pecon and Richard E Sitzer, all of Lee, Robert E Hamilton of Becket and Donald W Clark Sr of Greenfield.

Ushers at the church were Robert F Cheney, Heamon W Williams Jr and Werner Wyrzykowski, all of South Lee; and Thornton I Kinney of Lee

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1/20/75

Lena Pease; founded Lee's 1st kindergarten

LEE — Mrs. Lena Navin Pease, 84, of 15 Navin Ave., the founder of the town's first kindergarten and chronicler of the Lee Fire Department, died yesterday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Charlotte Davis, 9 Navin Ave.

Born in Lee, Mrs. Pease graduated from Lee High School in 1910 and the Pierce Business School in Philadelphia in 1912.

She was married in 1913, having first met her late husband Arthur (Skill) Pease, when they attended grammar school together. Mr. Pease was the town's fire chief, retiring from the post in 1932.

In the late 1950s, Mrs. Pease and her husband developed the Navin Heights and Pease Terrace residential section of Lee. For many years they were the sole residents of the area, which is on the high land ridge north of the center of town.

Mrs. Pease wrote a history of the town Fire Department which is still on file at the Lee Library.

She also began the first kindergarten in Lee in 1918. It was located in the Central Fire Station.

During World War II, Mrs. Pease was the president of the Lee chapter of the Red Cross.

She is a former president and member of the Tuesday Club in Stockbridge, and a former president of the Altar Guild of St. George's Episcopal Church here.

Besides her daughter, she leaves a sister, Mrs. Mary Shalley of Lee, two grandsons and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be Friday at 10:15 from the Kelly Funeral Home in Lee with a service at 11 at St. George's Episcopal Church. Burial will be in Fairmount Cemetery.

Calling hours at the funeral home will be tomorrow from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9.

Eagle 1/1/75

Mrs. Lena N. Pease

Funeral services for Mrs. Lena N. Pease of Lee were yesterday at St. George's Episcopal Church, Lee. The Rev. Robert A. Freeman, rector, officiated, assisted by Msgr. John P. Haverty, pastor of the Holy Sacrament of Staten Island, N.Y.

Burial was in Fairmount Cemetery, Lee, where Father Freeman, assisted by Msgr. Haverty and the Rev. Sean Horgan, assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church, Lee, offered prayers at the grave.

Bearers were William Tierney, John Dulin, J. Kenneth Driscoll, William Navin and Frank V. McCarthy, all of Lee, and Raymond Kirby of Lenox.

Eagle 11-22-75

James Joseph Mougin

Lee youth dies in gun accident

LEE — The body of a 19-year-old Lee youth missing since Thursday evening was found yesterday afternoon in a heavily wooded section of the October Mountain State Forest in Washington, about 300 yards from County Road.

Police said the dead youth, James Joseph Mougin of 49 Robert St., was the victim of an apparant hunting accident.

The recent graduate of a three-week course at the Outward Bound School in Morgantown, N.C., left his home about 2:20 Thursday afternoon on his motorcycle to hunt in the state forest, police said.

When he did not return home by 5:30, the time he told his mother he would return for supper, his mother called police. Lee and Lenox police searched the roads of the state forest until early Friday morning, but found no trace of the youth.

The search was resumed at 8 Friday morning. Mr. Mougin's motorcylce was found shortly before noon in the Washington section of the state forest, and the search was expanded to include Department of Natural Resources personnel, state police and volunteers from Lee, Washington and Becket.

Mr. Mougin's body was found about 2:30 yesterday afternoon.

Police theorize that he had tripped while hunting in the forest and his gun fired, the load striking him in the head.

An autopsy will be performed this morning at Pittsfield General unit, BMC by Dr. Irving I. Rubin, the medical examiner.

Mr. Mougin, a 1973 graduate of Lee High School and a 1975 graduate of Berkshire Community College, was an assistant scoutmaster of Troop 54 and a coach of the Vikings football team in the Lee PeeWee League.

He was born in Lee, the son of William and Helen Kolin Mougin. Mrs. Mougin is director of the town's Council on Aging. His father resides in Gaithersburg, Md.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by a brother, David E. Mougin of Lee; his paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Mougin of Allendale, Va., and his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Koulin of Cambridge Spring, Pa.

Funeral services will be held Monday at 10 at St. Mary's Church in Lee. Burial will follow in St. Mary's Cemetery. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Lee PeeWee Football League.

The Berkshire Eagle, Wednesday, May 21, 1975 — 15

Irene Hoffman is bride of Albert N. Nettleton

LEE — Mrs. Emile T. Rumpp of Hinesburg, Vt., announced today the marriage of her mother, Mrs. Irene M. Hoffman of Melbourne, Fla., to Albert N. Nettleton of Lee. The wedding took place May 17 at the home of Mr. Nettleton's son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. J. Paul Gaskill of Williamstown.

The Rev. John G. Gaskill of Sheffield officiated at the service which was attended by the immediate families, including Mr. Nettleton's two daughters, Mrs. Gaskill and Mrs. Douglas Willis of Pittsfield, and their families; and, the bride's daughter, Mrs. Rumpp, and family, and her three grandchildren and their father, Thomas H. Christmas of Acton.

Mr. Nettleton is the retired president of the Lee Savings Bank. Mrs. Nettleton and her late husband, Walter Hoffman, were realtors in Becket and Pittsfield before moving to Florida several years ago.

The couple plan to live in Lee and Melbourne.

Eagle 12-1-75

Warren Turners honored on 50th anniversary

Joel Librizzi

Mr. and Mrs. Warren A. Turner

LEE — Several hundred people turned out yesterday for an open house and dancing at the East Lee Steak House to honor former State Representative Warren A. "Casey" Turner and Madeline Fitzgerald Turner on their 50th wedding anniversary.

The couple received many gifts at the party, which was given by their five children — John W. Turner, Patricia Brown, and Mrs. Robert Plankey, all of Lee, Mrs. Robert Zink of Dalton and Mrs. James Strayer of Johnstown, Pa.

The Turners also have 16 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

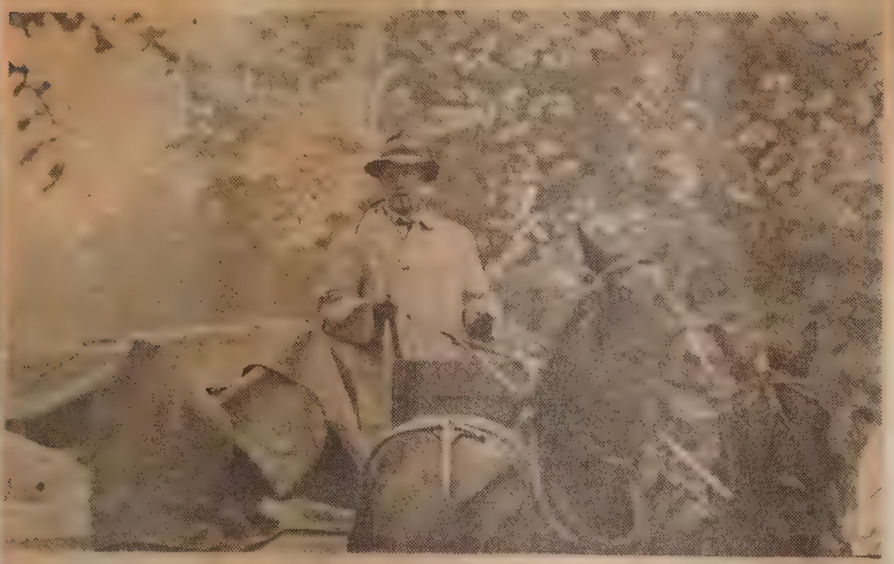
The couple were married on Nov. 29, 1925, at the Corpus Christi Church in Housatonic.

Mr. Turner represented the Lee area in the Massachusetts Legislature from 1955 to 1969 when his district was eliminated by a realignment. Before election to the legislature he served six terms on the Lee Board of Selectmen, two of them as chairman. He also served as chairman of the Lee Conservation Commission and was active in that agency's formation.

Mr. Turner worked for the Westfield Paper Co. and the Berkshire Gravel Co. Mrs. urner was a practical nurse at e Meadow Place in Lenox.

Berkshire Eagle

ld, Massachusetts, Tuesday, September 9, 1969



Ralph Conroy

HORSE-DRAWN COFFIN carrying the remains of Thomas Joseph Quinion is driven to grave site on family farm along Dean Hill Road in Canaan, N.Y., by William Quinion, the deceased's son. Mr. Quinion, 84, died Thursday at BMC, St. Luke's unit.

Thomas J. Quinion, 84, Buried In 'Happy Hunting Grounds'

By RALPH D. CONROY

CANAAN, N. Y. — William Quinion buried his father, Thomas Joseph Quinion, 84, beneath a sprawling butternut tree in the front yard of their 150-acre farm home yesterday afternoon.

The dark gray casket was taken from the farmhouse to the grave site some 30 yards distance along Dean Hill Road by a spirited team of chestnut horses drawing a spoke-wheeled, flat-bed wagon and driven by William Quinion himself. Some 35 people attended the funeral.

Standing on the back of the wagon beneath a gray mackerel sky and sporadic heavy rain, the Rev. Loren G. House Jr., pastor of Canaan Congregational Church, read from the 23rd and 121st Psalms as thick fog hung on the open meadows.

Concrete Over Grave

The casket was then lowered into the grave, which was dug by the younger Quinion. He again hitched the team of horses to the wagon and, with a yell and the reins trailing, whipped the horses into a canter across the short grass meadow to the barn, where he stabled them. The grave was then filled with five cubic yards of concrete by a mixing truck from Berkshire Concrete Corp.

Quinion said that the concrete will be floated smooth and that he intends to place a stone monument of a horse atop his father's grave.

Thomas J. Quinion was buried with his hunting rifle, a box of 30-06 cartridges, a box of shotgun shells, smoking and chewing tobacco his pipe, matches and his hat. His son, who has no religious affiliation, said that there is "Indian blood" in his family and that his father could use the effects in the "happy hunting grounds."

Grist From the Mills

Old threads among the new

Eagle
Aug 8 1972

By Joan Mills

STOCKBRIDGE

I'VE been trying for many weeks to think of a graceful way to tell you this. I have wanted to be able to say to myself, "Well, good; now that's done!" and then go on. I have decided that simplicity is more functional in this circumstance than grace. I shall therefore simply report that I am separated, and about to be divorced. I want to add, because it is true, that our family has discovered that it is possible for such a choice to be, in extraordinary and unanticipated ways, a good one. From it regularly arise occasions for optimism, respect, caring, and maturation.

So. All is well. With all of us.

* * *

NOW, that said, I can begin talking with you out of a different locus, about things that are new to me.

For one, I have moved to another house. With my affinity for beguiling eccentricities, I am living in what, two generations ago, served more elegant people than I as a stable. I think I am in its hayloft at this writing — for me it is the living room.

It happens that there's nobody here now but me and a hornet that's been bobbing drowsily along my ceiling and crawling up the folds of the muslin curtains for two days. The kids, full-grown that they are, come and go any old time. I know they're coming when I hear them thump up the stairs. They let themselves in; try my shower, raid the Tom Thumb refrigerator, stay for supper, spend the night. Or they are gone again—over the mountain to their other home and their pa.

* * *

SOMETIMES, like today, it's only me here, assimilating. I live at the center of Stockbridge. On pretty days like this one, I walk to the end of my landlord's driveway, and there's Norman Rockwell's Main Street Christmas scene laid out before me, except with August tourists everywhere on the sidewalks or standing befuddled on lawns, their noses in brochures and *Berkshire Weeks*. All the rockers on the Red Lion's porch are occupied and in motion. Out front, the visiting MGs and Mercedeses and Continentals back carefully into hometown traffic of old Volvos, Opel wagons and Italian bicycles. Everyone has a place to go, and so do I.

I love to do my Saturday errands. I invent them, if I have none, so that I can walk like a belonger under the lovely elms and past the Country-Curtained houses. Each Saturday I look to see what's old at Harriet Sossner's and what's new at Nejaime's. I tuck my library books in one arm and my groceries in the other, and then I nod at tourists with the generous and proprietary smile that comes of living in a town so beautiful that *they* have traveled great distances to admire it.

There's always somebody that I can say hello to as I go on my rounds. What's extra-nice about Stockbridge is that the hellos turn into chats; and then the chats, depending on who's going to the laundromat and who has to pick up kids, turn into good talks over coffee — "My place or your place?" Which is a Saturday afternoon serendipity all its own. Someone said the other night that there are only 2,000 year-round residents here. I went to a bigger high school than that! No wonder we all know one another.

Some of my new acquaintances I trust implicitly without ever having met them. By always peeking first at the sign-out card in the back of the books that I look at in the library, I've come to know whose taste corresponds to mine. Two or three such names on the card are a strong recommendation to me — I sign out the book myself, sure I'll enjoy it. For all I know, someone else is by now picking up books I've returned and thinking, "Well, if J. Mills read this, I might, too." It's a friendly way to browse — in fellowship, as it were.

* * *

A SATURDAY ago, a string quartet was playing informally on the library lawn as I went in. I stopped, suddenly overwhelmed by tender events. The day was so *soft;* people settled their grocery bags beside them and sat on the grass to listen. Lanky boys in cut-off jeans idled by on bicycles, wheeled by in whispers, and summer girls in long dresses and bare feet dreamily combed one another's hair to the music they had happened upon. I thought: How lucky I am!

I drive to work mornings toward Great Barrington, past the willows along Route 7 that signaled spring when my bones still said winter, that now are sweeping the ground with green. The swamp rushes have grown even taller than my children. The fog at Monument Mountain on grey mornings lifts me into the underside of a cloud that sometimes opens to show me the valley below. There are brown-eyed Susans collected in roadside clumps, and Queen Anne's lace where December's snowdrifts will lie.

* * *

ALL that I see is 12-years-familiar; but in changing my habits, I suppose that I have changed perspective, as well. I look at the familiar, and see it as something new to appreciate.

Name in the News

Singer on the Road

When Karl Finger of Monterey broke up a hearing of the state Committee on Transportation with his "Ballad of Route 23," a few eyebrows were raised at first but for professional folk singer Finger it was the most natural thing in the world.

Finger got folk singing into his blood 20 years ago at a summer camp in the Catskills. He learned from Pete Seeger and other folklorists who came to Camp Woodland in Phoenicia, N.Y., that ballads and current events can go well together. Instead of sitting around making lanyard necklaces all day, the kids were sent out into the hamlets in the hills to find out what was on the people's minds. Then they wrote skits and songs about what they had learned. Finger remembers especially a show about opposition to the big Catskill reservoir projects that were going on then.

* * * *

"It wasn't just being in the country but getting involved in the roots of the area, too," he said of his summer camp experience. Now 32, he was at the camp nine years as camper and counselor.

Twenty years ago McCarthyism was getting started in America, and camps like the one Finger went to were accused of being Communist training centers. Mothers were afraid their children would come down with polio if they had to stay in the city, and would become Communists if they went to camp. The director of Finger's Camp Woodland, Norman Studer, testified in 1955 before a New York State Legislature investigating committee that his camp was "patriotic" and not Communist.

"Far from being Communist, the camp was the closest thing to being what America's all about," Finger remembers. The investigators thought, he said, that folksinging was un-American. Finger, a native of Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y., said he still feels "a great debt" to camp director Studer.

Folksinging became a career for Finger, and not just an interest, after he had graduated with a degree in biology from the University of Chicago and was taking courses at Columbia in New York.

"I sort of walked sideways into it," he said. He would often wait tables in a place and then get a chance later to perform. He has played the Bitter End in Greenwich Village, the United Nations, Sing Sing Prison, and, closer to home, the Potting Shed at the Music Inn in Lenox.

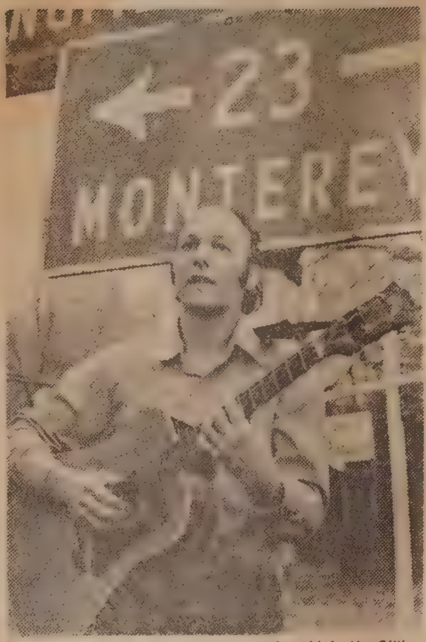
* * * *

Breaking ties with New York City, where Finger and his family lived before moving to Monterey, hasn't been easy for them. Their cooperative apartment house on West End Avenue is part of an active block association that grew from a dog-walking society to a Christmas caroling group to a general club. "Now people know each other," Finger says wonderingly.

"I sort of feel like a rat leaving it. That's the only way cities can survive, by dividing them into livable units. In Monterey we have very direct involvement in the roads and other matters that affect our lives — the hearing in Boston was an example," he said. "You can see the frustration developing in New York.

"The block association is the kind of thing that New York has to become. In Monterey, it's taken for granted," he said.

Finger, his wife, the former Judith Friedman, and two of her three sons from a previous marriage live in a log house on a hill overlooking Lake Garfield. Judy plays classical guitar herself, and it was during a telephone conversation about guitars that the two got to know each other.



Donald A. MacGillis

Mr. Finger: He walked in sideways.

Finger's stepsons, Rick and Bill Friedman, are both standouts on the Mt. Everett Regional School basketball team. Basketball is also Finger's game, and he'd like to see some kind of regional recreation league, for basketball and other sports, get started in the south Berkshires.

* * * *

Three days a week Finger is in the city to sing and record children's songs. The rest of the week he spends here, devoting much of his time to improving his land and the three cottages on the property, which he rents out.

Last week Finger was busy sprucing up his recording of the "Ballad of Route 23." He has worked up his own tune for it now, no longer using Woody Guthrie's "Pastures of Plenty." He also has put in a new guitar arrangement with a bass line, giving him a chance to show off some of his guitar skills, which are considerable. There's a plan afoot to release it as a 45 rpm single in Monterey, he said, maybe even as a fund-raiser for the Save Scenic Monterey Committee. But Finger doesn't want to see the record become another divisive element in the already divided town. So far, both sides have taken it in good spirit, he said.

One of Finger's plans for the future is to start pestering area historical societies for information about Berkshire history, with an eye to turning some of it into song. If he sticks to current events, he could protest the planned consolidation of the county's district courts with a "Ballad of the Barrington Court" and the Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary could use a song in its favor.

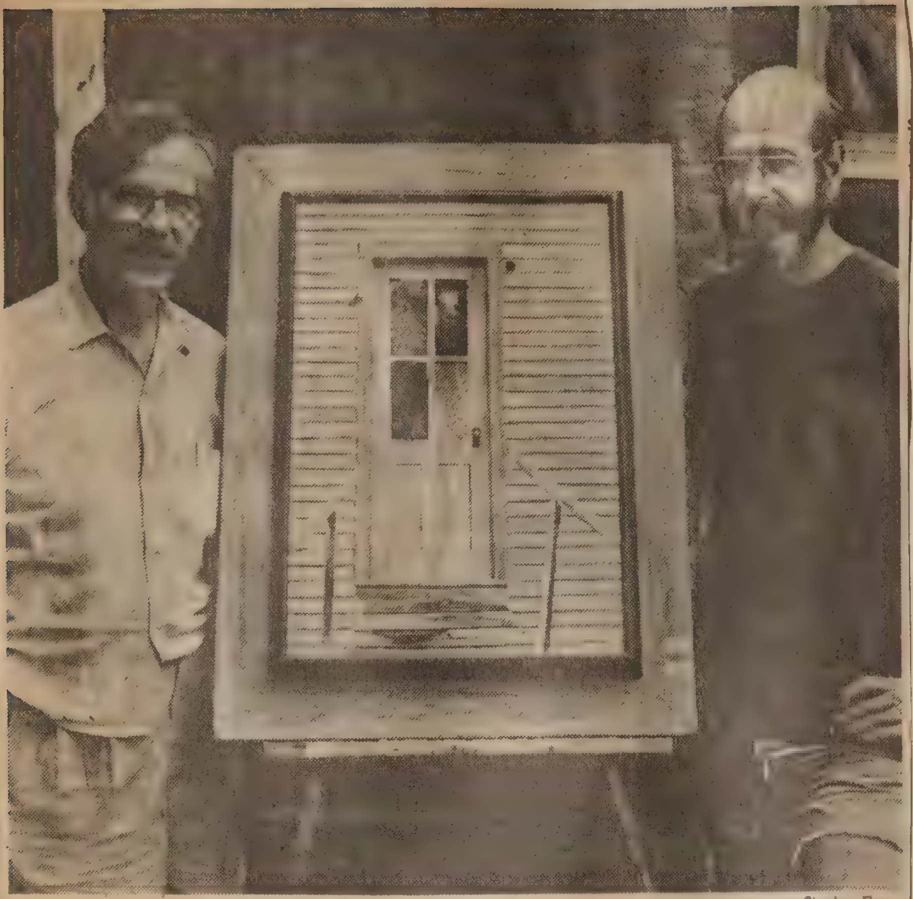
Monterey

Sierra Club Joins Opposition To Bypass

MONTEREY — Opponents of the Route 23 bypass, pleased with their success Saturday in electing some of their number to town positions in the annual town election, have picked up a new ally in their attempt to stop the bypass from going through the town.

The Cambridge-based Boston chapter of the Sierra Club, a national lobbying organization for conservation causes, has been informed of the bypass situation and has committed itself to opposing the road "if necessary," according to Fred Lancome, a leader of the local Save Scenic Monterey Committee.

Lancome said his son, Claude, a lawyer in Boston, addressed the Sierra group there Feb. 17 and explained the Monterey situation.



Stephen Fay

PLANES AND PANES, by South Lee artist Lester J. Clarke (left) will be among the paintings exhibited at his gallery here beginning Saturday. Local artist Mario Caluori (right) will also be represented in the show.

Exhibit opening at Lee gallery

SOUTH LEE — The Gallery Ge-Raj will hold an art show featuring the works of three local painters beginning this Saturday.

The gallery on Route 102 in South Lee will be open from 10 to 5 every day except Sunday and Monday. The show runs through Labor Day.

Oils, watercolors and acrylics by Lester J. Clarke will be on display. Clarke has had showings at the Lenox Library, the Sheffield Art League and the Pittsfield Art League.

Walter J. Pasko, a member of the Sheffield and Pittsfield Art Associates, will show his oil paintings at the exhibit. Pasko specializes in painting Berkshire winter landscapes.

Mario Caluori, a member of the Sheffield Art League and a participant in the Berkshire Art Association's spring open show, will display works in acrylics and graphics.

Lee phone users offered 'touch-tone'

11-6-75

LEE — Telephone customers here will be able to have telephones with push button keys installed in their homes beginning Nov. 25, New England Telephone Co. officials announced today.

The touch-tone phones, which replace the present rotary dials, will cost an additional $1.50 per month for residential customers and $2.30 for businesses.

11-6-75

A side effect of the availability of touch-tone phones is the new dial tone which began in the "243" exchange last Monday.

The lower pitch dial tone is caused by new equipment installed in the Lee switching office to make the touch-tone available.

The 243 exchange is the only one in the area to have the touch-tone service, according to JoAnn Kinner, sales manager for the telephone company.

"We originally planned to have touch-tone service for several exchanges in the Berkshires, but our budget was cut back and Lee was the only exchange to survive. The timing of the budget cuts was the only reason Lee survived," Ms. Kinner

She said the telephone company hopes to expand touch-tone service in the future.

Beauty Lotion 4

4)

Merrell Tavern Is About 155 Years Old

Deeds Show S. Lee Building Is 19th Century

By JOHN SCHWEIZER

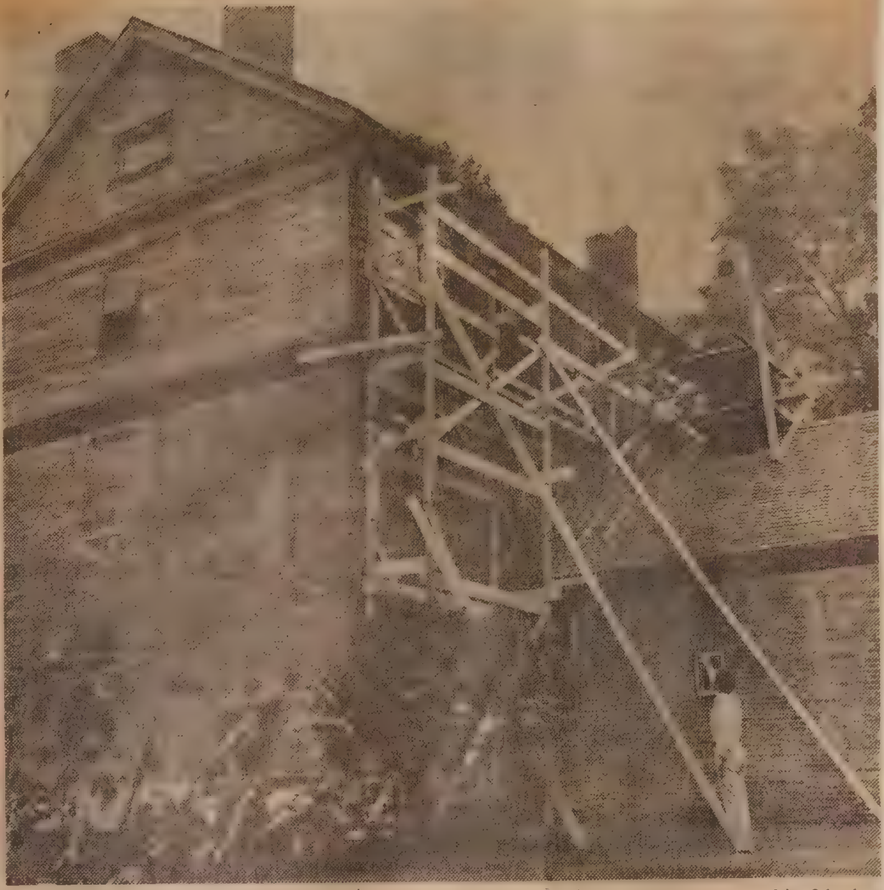
SOUTH LEE — In undertaking the restoration of the century-and-a-half-old Merrell Tavern, the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities has also uncovered much of the early history of the building.

Through exhaustive scrutiny of old deeds and other legal papers, the society has dispelled the local assumption that the tavern is an 18th-century structure. The fact is, according to Morgan Phillips, assistant supervisor of society properties, Merrell Tavern was built during the American Federal period between 1810 and 1815. The original structure, consisting of the first two floors, was built as a hostel by Joseph Whiton in what Phillips describes as "excellent Federalist style."

Spelled Variously

Two years later, the tavern came into the Merrell family (the name was apparently spelled a variety of ways over the years by the family itself), where it remained for 100 years. In 1831, one of William Merrell's sons took over; six years later another son became innkeeper. A third floor ballroom and the front porch were added in 1838, both examples of the then-popular Greek Revival architecture.

The William Davis family (Mrs. Davis was a Merrell) bought the property in 1880 and ran it for 20 years as the Davis Hotel. It is to the Davis era that the society plans to restore the tavern. From the turn of the century to the end of World War I, the hotel was operated off and on. It appeared that its days as a major layover spot on the Albany-Hartford road were over.



John Schweizer

Morgan Phillips, assistant supervisor of properties for the New England Society for the Preservation of Antiquities, views work under way at Merrell Tavern, South Lee, which the society owns. Exterior restoration will be followed by interior work.

Would Make Restaurant

Miss Mabel Choate of Stockbridge took the tavern out of the Merrell-Davis family in 1918 and, according to residents, ran it as the Old Tavern Tea Room during the 1920s and early '30s. The room was operated summers only by the Misses Elsie, Mina and Jean Ross for Miss Choate. The advent of World War II forced tea rooms out of vogue, and in 1947, Miss Choate gave the property to the Boston-based society.

In 1951, A. Donald Taylor of Savoy leased the building from the society with the intention of converting it into a restaurant. He apparently lived in a modest apartment in the tavern for some time. A more modern apartment with up-to-date heating was created from three rooms each on the first two floors in the early 1960s. Present occupants are Mr. and Mrs. Walter Cook, who have lived there as caretakers for a year and will continue to do so, according to Phillips.

One of many problems facing the society's restorative work on the building developed from removal by the society several years ago of the nearly original tin roof. Wooden shingles were laid, but now, says Phillips, a tin roof will have to be reinstalled if restoration is to be complete.

Restoration Under Way At Old South Lee Tavern

SOUTH LEE — Restoration work on 155-year-old Merrell Tavern has been started by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.

Morgan Phillips, assistant supervisor of society properties, said work began last week on replacing some of the third-floor exterior siding. Painting will be started shortly, he said. The brick will be painted gray, and the window and door frames, brown. The society plans to restore the building to its appearance of 90 years ago, when it was operated as the Davis Hotel.

According to Phillips, most exterior restoration will be completed this fall. Interior work will be undertaken next summer. The society plans to open the building as a museum shortly thereafter.

Society personnel have completed an exhaustive but thorough historical and architectural study of the tavern, Phillips said. He added that he is considering writing a historical narrative of the building.

The original tavern (the first two floors) was built between 1810 and 1815, and, according to Phillips, is a prime example, inside and outside, of the Federal period architecture. On the other hand, the third floor and porch, both added in 1838, are in Greek Revival style.

He says he is especially pleased about the relative lack of alterations done to the tavern over the years. The rooms are exactly as they were built, much of the original paint and hardware is intact and the Federal period bar is in nearly "mint" condition.

The property, comprising three or four acres, extends from Route 102 back to the Housatonic River, and includes a meadow, where sheep still graze as they did a century ago.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of the Secretary
State House, Boston 02133

John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth

March 8, 1972

Town Clerk John J. Nagle
Town Hall
Lee, Massachusetts

Dear John:

It is with pleasure that I, as Chairman of the Massachusetts Historical Commission, inform you that this office has received from George B. Hartzog Jr., Director of the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior notification that Merrell Tavern in Lee has been entered in the National Register of Historic Places.

Merrell Tavern was nominated for this distinction by the Historical Commission, through the State Liaison Officer responsible for our implementation of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Public Law 89-665 (80 Stat. 915) as amended.

In order that you may know more about the purposes of the National Register of Historic Places I am enclosing herewith a pamphlet on the subject.

I am sure that you share with me a keen interest in historic preservation and can appreciate my enthusiasm over the designation of famed Merrell Tavern.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

John Davoren

JOHN F. X. DAVOREN
Secretary of the Commonwealth

JFXD:cad

Original in library file---under Merrill Tavern

2/24/72 Eagle

DESIGNATED as historical landmarks by the federal government are St. Luke's Episcopal Church (above) off Route 7 in Lanesboro, and the Merrell Tavern (below) off Route 102 in South Lee. Landmarks are eligible for federal and state funds.

2-24-72

2 Area Structures Made Landmarks

Two more Berkshire County buildings have been added to the National Register of Historical Landmarks, Congressman Silvio O. Conte was advised over the weekend.

They are the so-called Merrell Tavern on Route 102, South Lee, a three-story wooden structure, and St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Route 7, Lanesboro. Another new national landmark, Conte's office said, is the Maj. Joseph Griswold House in Buckland, third-floor ballroom of which was the forerunner of what later became Mount Holyoke College in nearby South Hadley.

Conte's office said there are other Berkshire landmarks for which similar federal designation is sought. One is Morewood School in Pittsfield, which would be the "Little Red Schoolhouse." Others would be the Church-on-the-Hill, Lenox, and the Old Corner House in Stockbridge.

Formal designation as landmarks provides legal safeguards for these places against damage from federal projects. It also provides federal funds, matched by the state, to help preserve them, even though the buildings remain in private ownership.

National Landmarks
Continued on Page 20

The Merrell Tavern was built about 1806 by Gen. John Whiton, who commanded Western Massachusetts troops in the War of 1812. He sold it to the state of Connecticut in 1815 for about $16,000, and John T. and Charles Merrell acquired it two years later. It remained in the family for about 100 years until it was acquired in 1918 by the late Mabel Choate of Stockbridge. She turned it over in 1947 to the present owners, the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.

The tavern was a stopping off place for stagecoaches operating between Springfield and Albany. In 1938, the Merrells added a third-floor ballroom and the Greek Revival porch. During the 1930s, the ballroom was the scene of community dances held for men assigned to the Civilian Conservation Corps camp on nearby Beartown Mountain.

The St. Luke's Church is an early example of Gothic Revival architecture. It was one of the first Episcopal outposts in Western Massachusetts and only the second parish in Massachusetts to be located away from the Atlantic coast. The parish was founded in 1676.

Griswold House

Miss Mary Lyon, who taught in the Griswold House from 1824 to 1829, offered the building to Buckland, but the town turned down the offer. She then moved to South Hadley and opened a seminary which was to become Mount Holyoke College, one of the foremost women's colleges in the country.

Last week the Mount in Lenox, home of novelist Edith Wharton, was designated as a national landmark. It is a part of the estate on which the Foxhollow School is located.

Other landmarks in this area are Hancock Shaker Village, the Mission House in Stockbridge and Chesterwood, the Daniel Chester French home in Stockbridge.

Donald MacGillis

STEEPLETOP, the Austerlitz, N.Y., home of poet Edna St. Vincent Millay, has been declared a national historic landmark by the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Homes of Millay, Wolcott Named National Landmarks

By DONALD A. MacGILLIS

The Austerlitz, N.Y., home of the late poet Edna St. Vincent Millay and the Litchfield, Conn., home of Declaration of Independence signer Oliver Wolcott have been added to the Interior Department's list of national historic landmarks.

At the same time, the Department of the Interior also designated the Chicopee Falls home of Edward Bellamy a historic landmark.

Two weeks ago, it was announced that the home of writer Edith Wharton in Lenox had been placed on the list, which is designed to encourage the preservation of historically significant sites.

Federal Aid

Al four buildings thus become eligible for federal aid in maintenance, if they comply with state historical preservation criteria and either need the aid or are owned by the National Trust.

The national landmark designation also protects the sites from being used in any federal projects, such as road construction.

Steepletop, the Millay house atop a slope off Route 22 near the West Stockbridge line, was the home of the poet from 1925 until her death in 1950.

Born in 1892 in Rockland Maine, and a resident of Camden, Maine, she achieved fame for her verse and her work as an actress in Greenwich Village during the years just before and after World War I.

Like many New Yorkers seeking a home in the country, Miss Millay and her husband, Eugen Jan Boissevain, bought the 750-acre Bailey estate, sight unseen from an ad in a newspaper, the New York World. She wrote almost all her later work there, having built a tiny, one-room

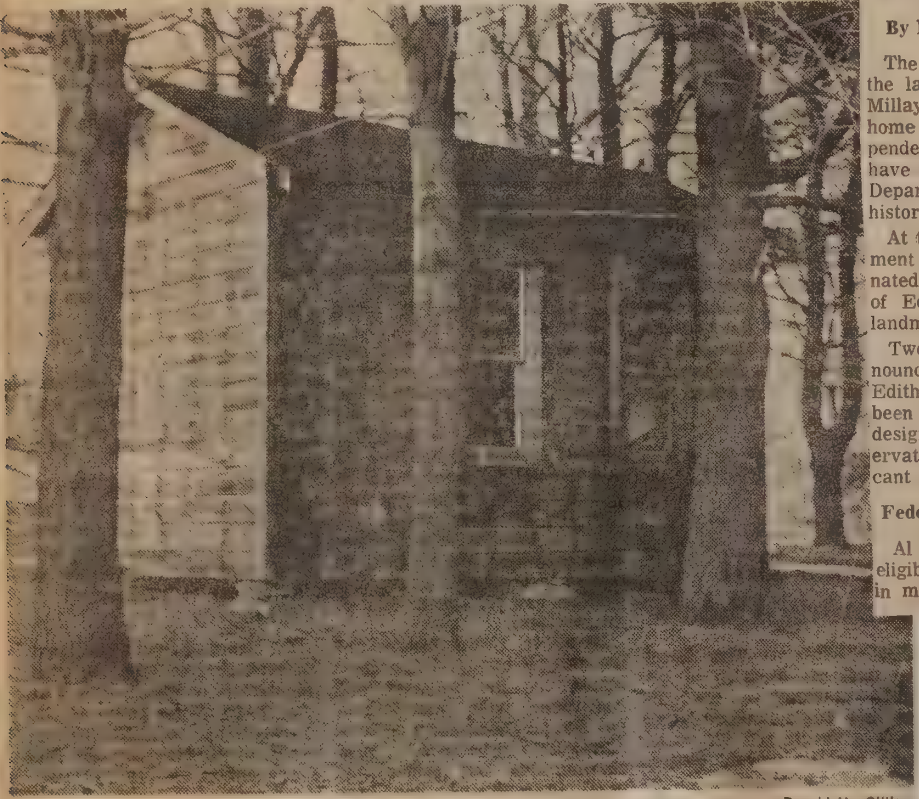
Assistance Offered On U.S. Tax Returns

Taxpayer assistance will be given on the five Wednesdays in March at the Internal Revenue Service's Pittsfield office in the Berkshire Common.

IRS personnel will be available from 8:30 to 5 to help taxpayers who call at the office on those days. Help may also be asked by telephone. District Director William E. Williams asked, however, that taxpayers prepare as much of their returns as possible before seeking aid.

Torrington Re

HOME OF FOUNDING FATHER Oliver Wolcott, above, has been named a tional historic landmark. The shed below is on the Edna St. Vincent Millay s also named to the list. The poet wrote most of her later work in the one-room cak



Donald MacGillis

New National Landmarks

Continued from Page 15

Edward Bellamy, who is perhaps best known for his novel, "Looking Backward," was born in Chicopee in 1850. His experiences in the 19th century mill town are clearly in the background of the novel, which is a classic industrial utopian preview of the year 2000.

Bellamy also wrote "The Duke of Stockbridge," a ro-

#44

7-22-72

Torrington Register

HOME OF FOUNDING FATHER Oliver Wolcott, above, has been named a national historic landmark. The shed below is on the Edna St. Vincent Millay site, also named to the list. The poet wrote most of her later work in the one-room cabin.

Donald MacGillis

New National Landmarks

Continued from Page 15

cabin on the grounds for the greatest possible privacy. The estate also includes a guest house, a barn and a vehicle shed.

Renovated Loft

The house is now occupied by Miss Millay's sister, Norma Millay, and her husband, the artist Charles Ellis. Ellis has renovated a loft of the shed and made it a studio for his work.

Mrs. Ellis opened the estate July 25, 1966, for an afternoon of readings and singings of her sister's verse. Edna Millay's one-act play, "Aria Da Capo," was presented by apprentices of the Berkshire Theatre Festival company. More than 1,200 persons attended the event.

Mrs. Ellis cherishes the memory of her sister and entertained a recent visitor with fond reminiscences of their days together in Maine and in an apartment on 9th Street in New York City.

Edna St. Vincent Millay

The Wolcott house on South Street in Litchfield was built in 1753. Wolcott represented Connecticut from 1775 to 1778 and from 1780 to 1783 in the Continental Congress. He participated in the early debates on independence and signed the Declaration of Independence in October 1776.

A statue of Britain's King George III, brought from New York City, was melted down for bullets during the Revolutionary War in the backyard of the Wolcott house, where the owner entertained Washington, Lafayette and Hamilton.

'Looking Backward'

Edward Bellamy, who is perhaps best known for his novel, "Looking Backward," was born in Chicopee in 1850. His experiences in the 19th century mill town are clearly in the background of the novel, which is a classic industrial utopian preview of the year 2000.

Bellamy also wrote "The Duke of Stockbridge," a romance about Shay's rebellion that centers on social injustice, economic hardship and class warfare in Western Massachusetts in the 1780s. "The Duke" was published in 1879, eight years before "Looking Backward," as a serialized novel in the Berkshire Courier.

Mr. Nixon himself followed until relatively recently. But the concurrence of organized labor and the surviving remnants of the Communist party in the same viewpoint requires a bit more explaining.

The AFL-CIO position, enunciated amid the cigar smoke at a meeting of the organization's executive council in Florida last weekend, reflects the fact that on most issues that go beyond the water's edge the labor moguls are, if anything, about 10 degrees to the right of the American Manufacturers Association. Their alarm at the prospect of better relations with Peking is simply an extension of AFL-CIO President George Meany's consistent and unquestioning support of the war in Vietnam—the knee-jerk reaction of a basically conservative and inflexible old Cold Warrior.

[illegible] rather, "an attempt to use the policies of Mao to divide the socialist countries."

In Gus Hall's book, the sin of Chairman Mao is "left opportunism," defined as a belief in "the false notion of armed insurrection as the only road to socialism and a failure to understand that peaceful coexistence is a form of the class struggle on a world scale." This makes President Nixon guilty of consorting with a man who wants to make war not love and who still holds to ideas that Moscow (and Mr. Hall) once espoused but has since discarded.

It's all rather confusing. But when you put it together it would seem to add up to a confirmation of President Nixon's good sense in trying to penetrate the bamboo curtain. Certainly anyone who can make political bedfellows out of George Meany, Gus Hall and the Birchers can't be all bad.

Time to defuse the busing issue

It is becoming increasingly apparent that the best thing to do with the school busing question is to put it on ice. It's an essentially phony issue but an explosive one. If it is allowed to become a major issue in the coming election, as a lot of irresponsibles would like it to, the only effect could be to muddy up the campaign and, quite possibly, to set the whole cause of school integration back a decade.

Consequently it is heartening to learn that the two top leaders of the U.S. Senate, Majority Leader Mike Mansfield and GOP leader Hugh Scott, have drafted a bill designed to

It will

to the

pro-

federal agency may require busing "except as constitutionally required."

The net effect of all this would be to put the brakes on busing plans designed by HEW or any other agency purely to create a set racial balance, while still supporting busing plans conforming with court decisions. This won't please ardent integrationists, but it retains busing as "one tool of school desegregation," it conforms with the Supreme Court ruling of last April on the subject, and most important, it gets the issue out of partisan politics.

Meanwhile, back at the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue, White House aides are still talking about presenting a constitutional amendment to

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Civic propping for a landmark steeple

To the Editor of THE EAGLE.—

The 195-foot steeple and tower of Lee's First Congregational Church has stood as a landmark for nearly 150 years in the heart of the Berkshires. Pilots tell me they use it as an outstanding signpost in their flights over the county.

Today the steeple and tower plus the facade of the church are in need of major repairs and renovation. At a distance it looks OK, but inside and outside on close observation we find extensive work necessary. Steeple engineers find serious cracks in beams and posts. Ornamental work and wood on the exterior falls off during every storm. The iron nails used 150 years ago have all rusted out and hence the wood decorations are falling off or loosening, letting the rain and snow in.

Every Friday our custodian, Orville Gardner Jr., climbs the shaky tower stairs to wind up the old clock which chimes faithfully day and night. Even when the electricity goes off, in the storms, the church bell sounds out loud and clear with its familiar tones of confidence. The steeple is truly a community symbol, or a county one for that matter, especially when floodlit at night.

Church in 1886, from Winegar collection

The church is faced with a major renovation job to cost at least $10,000. Our leaders here are faced with a major question:

"Does the maintenance of such a steeple and clock, and the organ loft under it, merit such expenditure of funds whilst the mission and program of the Church of Christ calls for other pressing needs and services to the members, community and conference in general?"

Another question:

"Should we reach out for assistance far and wide to preserve a beautiful landmark, and even more important, to maintain a symbol which now stands for a real purposeful spiritual mission to its members and to the town of Lee?"

Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Golden Agers, AA, Interchurch Youth, VNA, YMCA and other local and statewide groups, as well as the Red Cross, plus the new school for retarded children, all use these facilities. In view of this wide outreach of the Lee Congregational Church, I feel as its minister in leadership that we should rightly let the town and county know about this critical need. Responsible church leaders are meeting through October to make a report to the congregation and to take action. Interested persons who may want to help, or industrial leaders and members in the vicinity may contact me personally for more details.

(Rev.) WALTER S. RYAN
First Congregational Church
20 Park Place
Lee

POLITICIANS AND PARADES go hand in hand. Lee Selectmen, from left Martin H. Deely, Edward F. Murray and Joseph J. Castronova march in the Lee Firemen's Muster parade Sunday.

Photo by Benjamin L. Ginsberg

HORSE DRAWN Conestoga wagon was one of many western features in the 54-unit muster parade in Lee Sunday. An estimated 10,000 persons lined the route. Kelly Funeral Home and Owens building on Main Street form background in this photo. Another photo appears on Page 1 of today's Eagle.

Lee muster draws 10,000

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — The bonhomie of a firemen's muster and the pageantry of a 54-unit parade combined with near-perfect weather to bring an estimated 10,000 people here Sunday.

The throng, which longtime residents of the town said was the largest they could remember, was three and four deep along parts of the three-quarter-mile parade route.

Lee Police Chief John J. Boyne estimated that "at least 10,000 people watched the parade with a large number" attending the muster afterwards at the Lee Athletic Field.

12 muster teams

Twelve muster teams from five states partcipated in the four-hour competition, the first held here in 14 years. The team from Hatfield captured the most points, winning two of the four events and placing second in another. Hindsdale placed second and Stephentown, N.Y. third in the competition.

The South Lee Civic Association was given the best float in the parade . The Great Barrington Fire Department was named the best appearing fire company in uniform with apparatus and the Lenox Fire Department had the most men in the parade in uniform with apparatus.

The Dalton Fire Department muster team, appearing in its first competition, was awarded the Best Sportsmen trophy. William J. Duffy, a lieutenant in the department and captain of the muster team, was singled out for his effort.

Duffy, 42, fell off his company's truck at the start of the high-speed 50-yard drive in the centrifugal pumping contest and was dragged for about 40 yards. When the truck stopped at the end of the 50 yards, Duffy pulled himself off the ground and lugged his company's hose 30 yards down the field towards the target.

Out of food

The size and appetite of the crowd forced members of the Lee Fire Department into some tricky manuevering of their own. The food concessions ran out of all items in the first 2½ hours of the muster.

Members of the fire company raided local food stores for 500 extra hot dogs during the afternoon. They sold 2,000 hot dogs, 3,000 hamburgers. 1,000 ears of corn and an unknown quantity of coca-cola. The food was served by members of local service clubs and wives of the firemen.

The concession stands also sold out the original 25 kegs of beer bought for the day. However they managed to purchase 10 more kegs, meaning that 35 kegs, or 69,440 ounces of beer, were consumed. Fire Department officials are refusing to say where they managed to buy 10 kegs of beer in Massachusetts on a Sunday.

The amount of money made from the concessions will not be known for several days, fire department spokesmen said.

Friday's heavy rains nearly put a damper on the whole event. When members of the department went to the field Saturday morning to finish preparations, they found 4-inches of water covering the field. They managed to dry it out by Sunday.

The final results of the muster were:

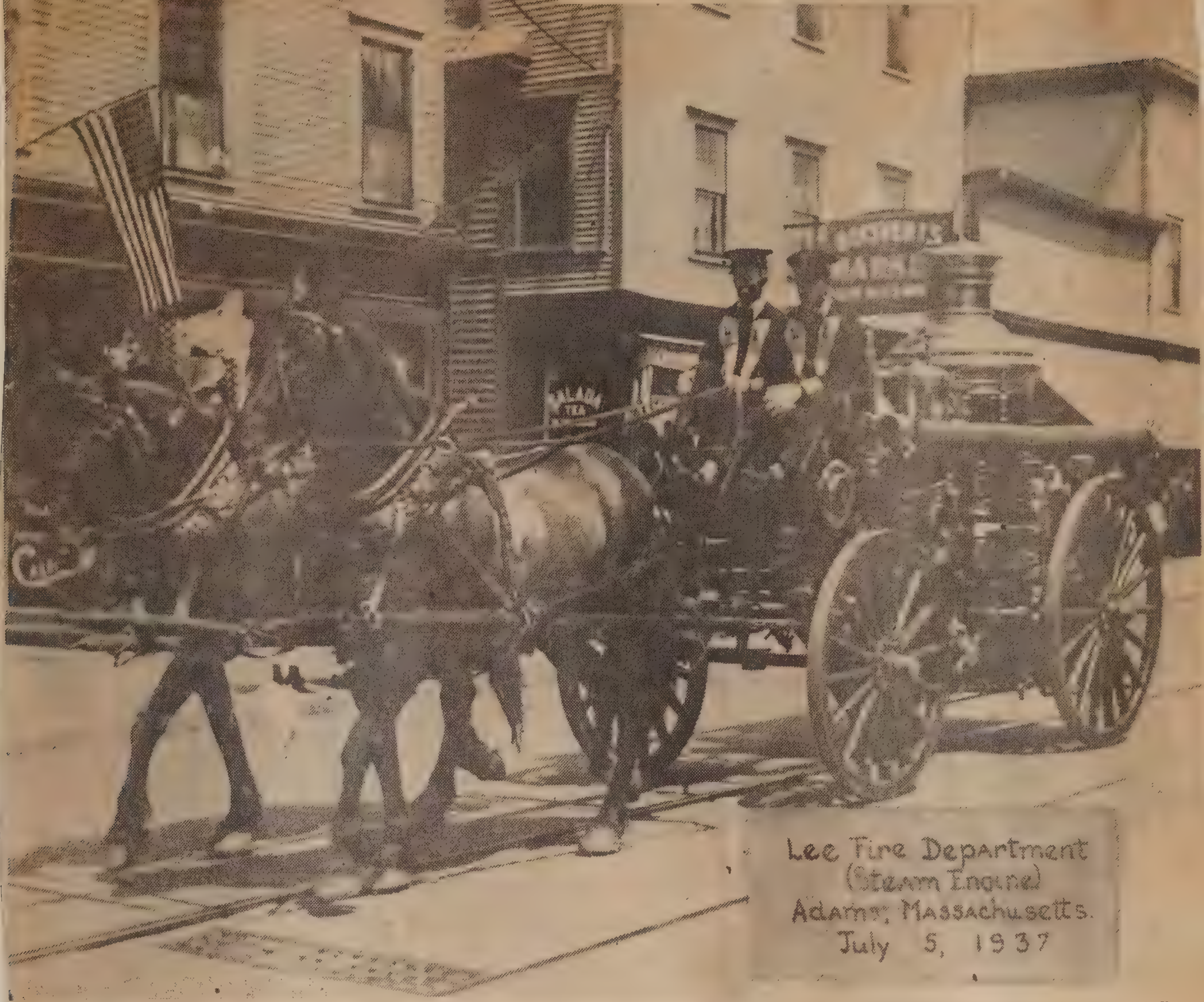
Midnight alarm: Hinsdale, 33.4; Hatfield, 33.9; Lee, 34.0; Reedsboro, 34.8.

Rotary pumping: Hatfield, 27.5; Hinsdale, 33.8; Keene, 34.7.

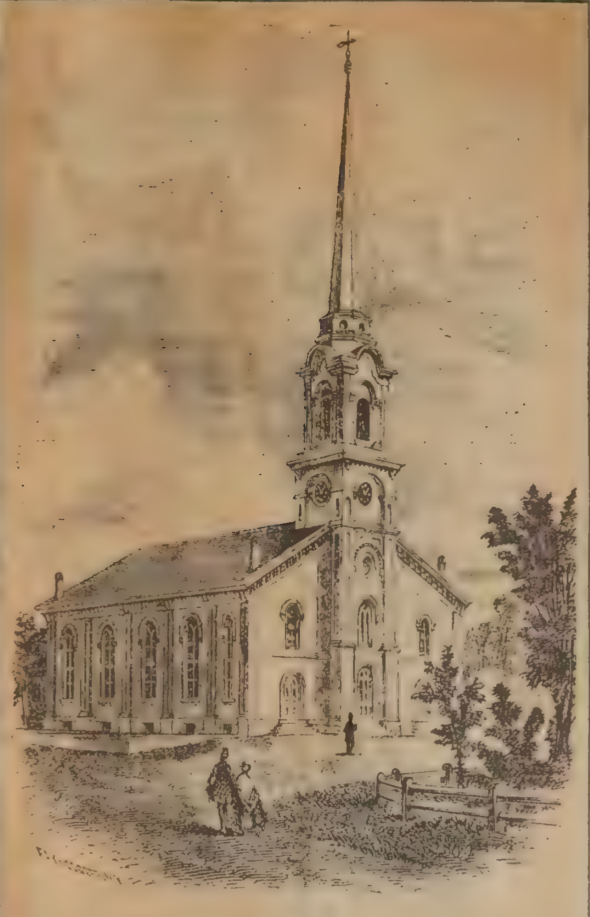
Centrifugal pumping: Stephentown, 32.5; South Deerfield, 34.5; Lee, 36.9; Lanesboro, 37.2.

Five-man ladder: Hatfield, 7.1; Whately, 7.2; Lanesboro, 7.4.

AIMING NOZZLE is the muster team from Lanesboro in the centrifugal pumping contest at the Lee Firemen's Muster Sunday at the town's athletic field. Lanesboro finished fourth.


Lee Fire Department
(Steam Engine)
Adams, Massachusetts.
July 5, 1937

LEE FIREMEN owned this steamer when they showed it at Adams parade pictured here in 1937, but sold the pumper during the 1950s to Longmeadow, which will bring it back to Lee for firemen's parade scheduled Aug. 31. Also signed up for the parade to date are 30 firemen's units, including 14 muster teams, plus 10 floats, six bands, and a contingent from Eastover in Lenox.



Congregational Church and Chapel, Lee, Mass.

Lee church proposed for federal register

LEE — Members of the First Congregational Church here are being asked to have the church listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The register, according to a publication describing it, "is a list of distinction identifying for the people those properties worthy of preservation for their historic value."

The move is being suggested by Dr. William H. Pearson of Williams College, an architectual historian, who with Berkshire County Historical Society representative Donald Smith and Lenox resident John D. Hatch examined the church last month.

Members of the church discussed the proposal at a retreat two weeks ago and agreed to investigate the suggestion. Listing in the register qualifies the building to be eligible for grants of funds for restoration.

Romanesque revival

An example of Romanesque revival architecture, the church was built in 1858 on the site of an earlier church that was destroyed by the "great fire" of 1857.

The current building is the third in the church's history. The original was constructed in 1780, but was replaced in 1800.

A wing containing a parish hall and offices was added in 1965. Designed by architect Norman G. A. Day of Lenox, it repeated the style of the church.

The interior of much of the sanctuary is stenciled to resemble paneling, a system of interior design that today is rarely seen or done.

The stenciling includes painted shadows and highlights that make the artificial paneling appear three-dimensional.

The Rev. Walter S. Ryan, church pastor, says that the proposal comes at a time "when church leaders have been planning for the next 10 years of the church's work and development.."

A long-range planning committee of the church will present findings of a year-long study of the church and its members to a general meeting this fall.

A recommendation on whether or not to seek listing in the register is expected to accompany the findings, according to Mr. Ryan.

Ordinarily, according to the U. S. Department of the Interior, "properties owned by religious institutions and used for religious purposes shall not be considered eligible for the National Register."

But religious property "deriving primary significance from architectual or artistic distinction" does qualify for the listing, the department says.

Eagle 3/5/74

Bank acquires motel

LEE — The Laurel Hill Motel, owned since 1971 by Mrs. Marie G. Walkes of Lee, has been acquired by Lee Savings Bank for $81,677.63, records at the Berkshire County Registry of Deeds in Pittsfield indicate.

Charles M. Tacy, treasurer of the bank, said yesterday that the bank "accepted the deed in lieu of foreclosure," and had already listed the motel for sale with several local real-estate brokers.

Transfer of the property to the bank was recorded at the Registry Feb. 27.

Mrs. Walkes, formerly of Hinsdale, N.Y., bought the motel from Roy and Wallace J. Smith in 1971 for $110,300. On the east side of Laurel Street, across from Lee state police barracks, the motel consists of 15 units and two apartments.

Tacy said that the bank was able to accept the deed to the property rather than foreclose on it because there were no other liens or attachments to the deed, or creditors laying claim to it.

Joseph M. Toole, a broker with the Lee real-estate firm of L. V. Toole, one of the local agencies handling sale of the motel, said yesterday that he already had one party interested in it. Toole said his firm's asking price is $105,000.

The Berkshire Eagle, Monday, March 4, 1974— 11

Lee band heads for Florida for Disney World concert

LEE — Despite a last-minute increase in bus costs prompted by rising fuel prices, the Lee High School Band will leave early Wednesday morning for its Friday noon concert at Disney World, Fla.

Band Director Charles O. DiNunzio said this morning that Greyhound Bus Lines, which will carry the 114-member group to Forida, increased its price for the trip two weeks ago by six per cent to cover higher fuel prices. The three buses will now cost more than $7,000 for the six-day round trip.

Balance needed

Cost for the entire trip, including rooms at the Sheraton Lakeside hotel in Orlando, two miles away from Disney World, will be more than $9,500, DiNunzio said.

More than $4,000 has been raised for the trip through candy sales, suppers and weekly food sales, raffles and donations from local service organizations and industries. Another $5,000 came from funds earned by band members in previous years, and from funds raised by the band parents' organization.

DiNunzio said that several more fund-raising events are planned for March and April to produce the balance, including a fashion show and a wine-tasting party.

DiNunzio and Assistant Band Director Larry Porter will accompany the 90 band members and majorettes and 22 band parents acting as chaperones who will make the trip.

The group expects to arrive in Orlando, Fla. Thursday afternoon, some 30 hours after leaving Lee. It will march in a Disney World parade at noon on Friday, then give a half-hour concert at 12:30.

The group will receive free admission to the park and amusements on Friday, but will have to pay for tickets on Saturday. Buses will leave Sunday morning at 10, and will return to Lee early Monday evening.

The Disney World parade and concert are daily events, DiNunzio said. Bands from throughout the nation are invited to perform either at the noon program or at a similar one early in the evening.

DiNunzio said the band had been asked to play "light, happy tunes" at the concert. He said the Lee band's program would consist of marches and pop tunes, including "Hey, Look Me Over" and "Killing Me Softly."

The Berkshire Eagle, Thursday, March 21, 1974— 13

Lee man purchasing Laurel Hill Motel

LEE — Richard H. duPont of Golden Hill Road will purchase the Laurel Hill Motel across from the state police barracks on Route 20 here. Papers completing the sale are expected to be signed tomorrow.

DuPont said yesterday that he will pay "around $100,000" for the 15-unit motel and its furnishings, and expects to have it operating within two weeks.

The motel was acquired by Lee Savings Bank on Feb. 27 from Mrs. Marie G. Walkes of Lee, the former owner, for $81,677.63.

Charles M. Tacy, treasurer of the bank, said two weeks ago that the bank "accepted the deed in lieu of foreclosure," and yesterday added that the purchase price listed on the deed did not include costs of furnishings, property taxes and interest due on the mortgage.

Mrs. Walkes bought the motel in 1971 for $110,000 from Roy and Wallace J. Smith.

DuPont, who spent five years in the hotel business in Florida during the 1950s, said he was "not at all" concerned about the effects of gasoline shortages on the tourist industry.

He said he plans to refurbish the motel "inside and out," and may add more units. The motel also has two apartments.

DuPont said he plans to operate the motel himself, and will employ three persons. He said he had no plans to convert the building into apartments but is not certain whether he will add dining facilities.

Tacy said yesterday that the actual purchase price would be $96,000, "plus adustments" for expenses borne by the bank.

"In a distress sale you pick up many expenses that are not in a normal sale," Tacy said. "We had to pay the balance of 1973 property taxes, 1974 taxes to date, and approximately six months' interest on the mortgage."

Tacy said the sale came considerably sooner than expected.

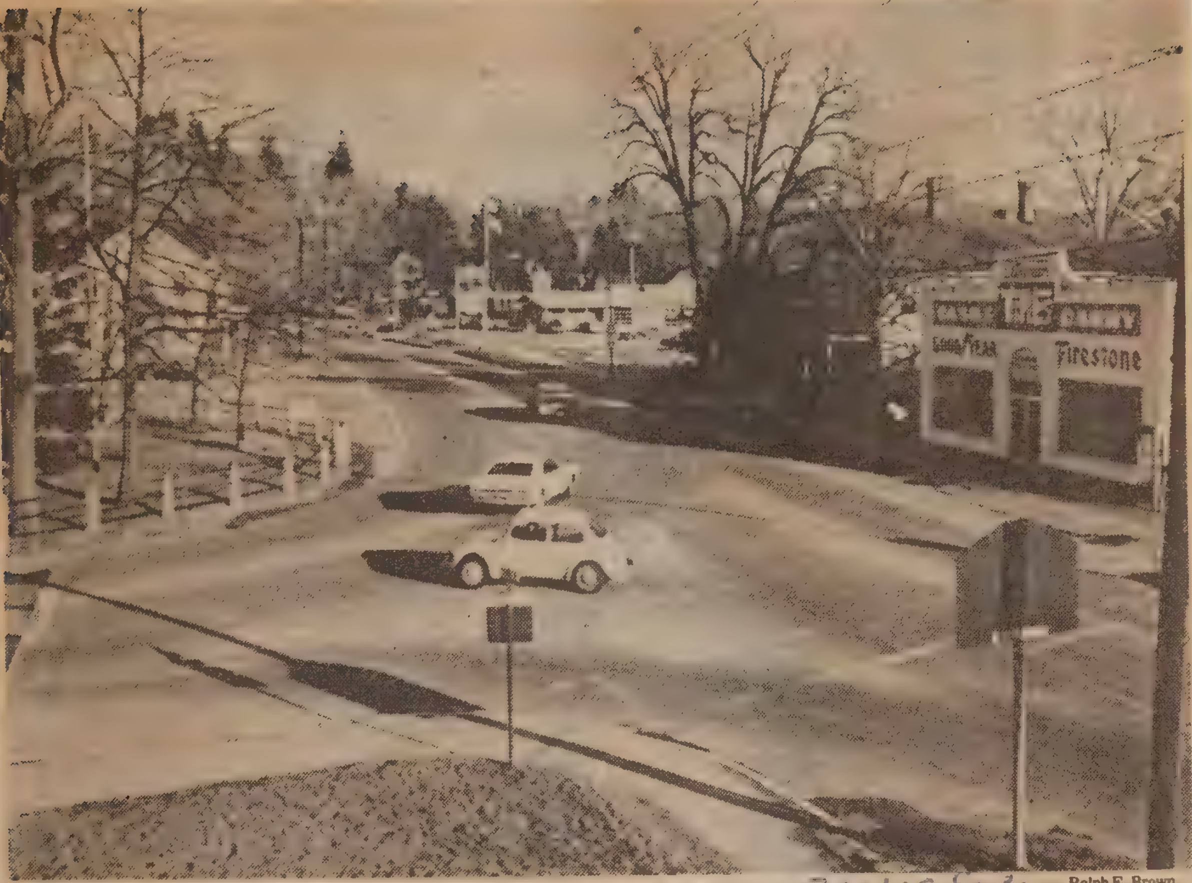
Art organization being formed in Lee

LEE — Plans are being made to form an art group of elderly citizens for the town's bicentennial celebration in 1977.

Mrs. Helen Mougin of the Office of Elder Affairs said that residents interested in joining such a group should contact Mrs. Roseann Larrivee of Main Street.

The group will collect works of art and restorations of historical heirlooms by its members, Mrs. Mougin said. 2/28/74

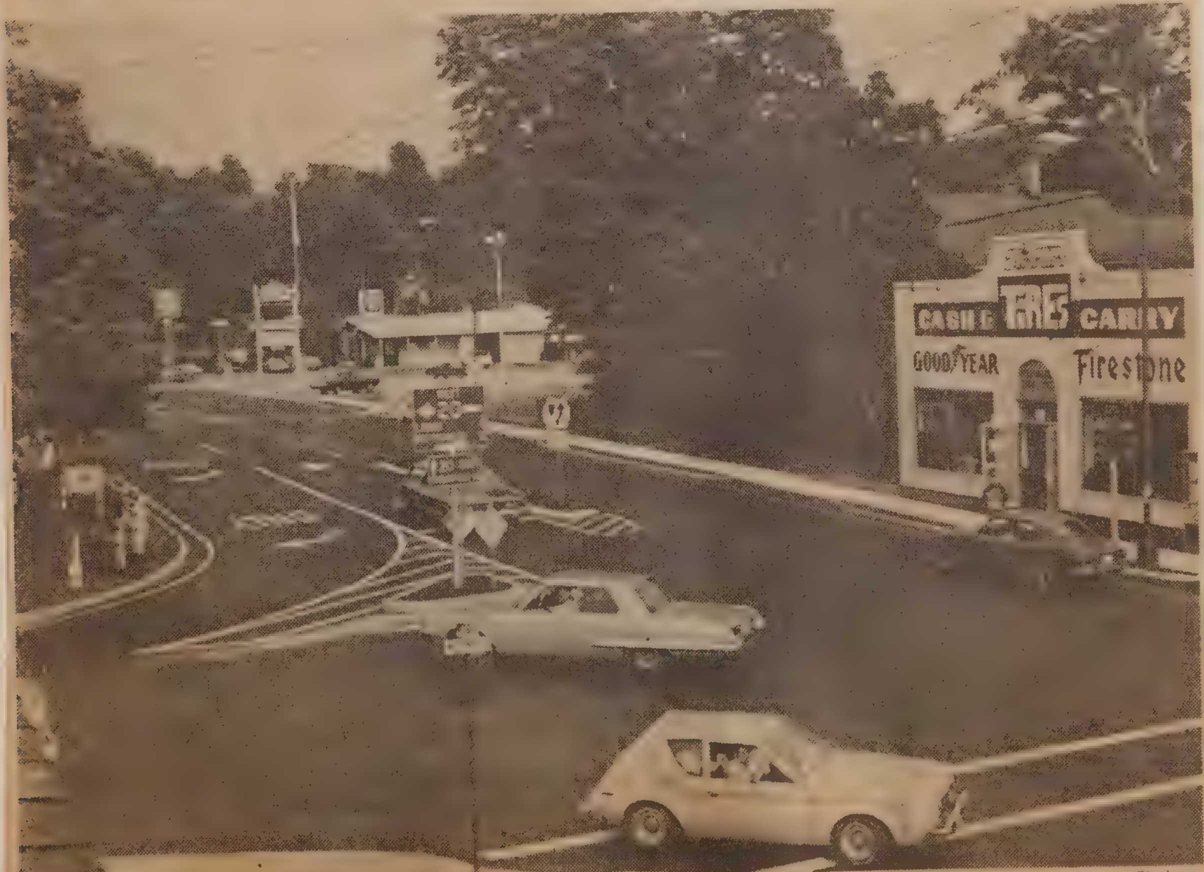
Eagle


GOODYEAR
Firestone

3/11/75 Eagle

Ralph E. Brown

BEFORE AND AFTER scenes of the Lee intersection at Main, Park and West Park streets show the traffic flow improvements, nearing completion, that have been undertaken by the state Department of Public Works. The traffic islands, street-widening and additional signs cost $100,000. The top picture was taken in January, the bottom picture was taken yesterday, both looking east from the Kelly Funeral Home.


CASH & TIRES CARRY
GOODYEAR
Firestone

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

#51

Lee considers buying Railroad St. buildings

2/5/74

LEE — The Selectmen said last night the town has been invited to buy two warehouses and an office building on Railroad Street, which are owned by Fred R. LaGrant. The asking price is $150,000.

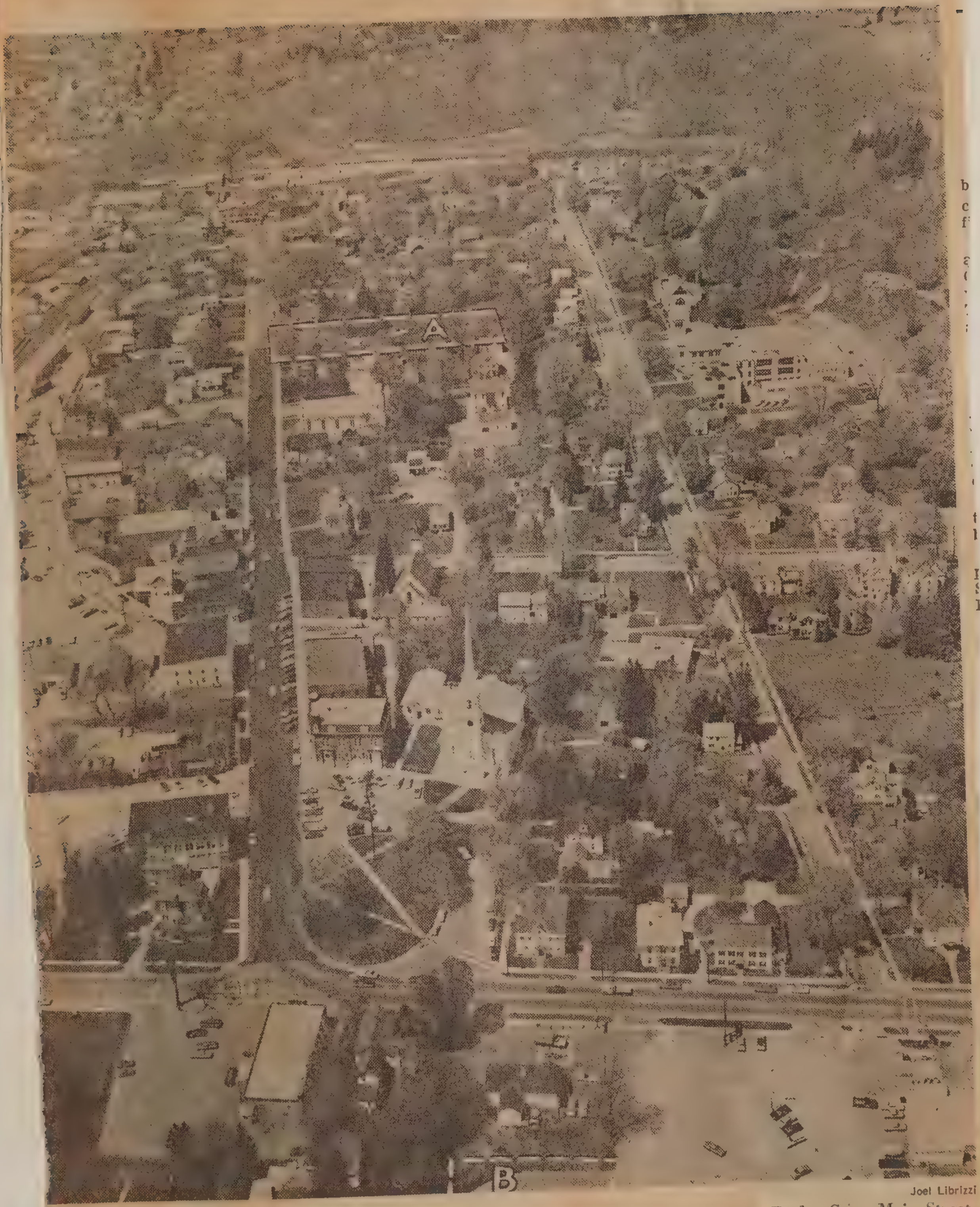
The buildings housed Bombardier East, a snowmobile and motorcycle distributor, until early last month when the firm decided to end its operations in Lee.

Martin Deely, chairman of the Selectmen, said that the board toured the site on Saturday with members of the Department of Public Works. The Selectmen want town meeting members to see the buildings with them and DPW members on Feb. 22.

Deely said the two warehouses contain 16,000 square feet, and that the office building held 10 "nicely appointed" offices.

Purchase of the property would allow the town to move offices of the superintendent of schools and the Board of Health out of rented space.

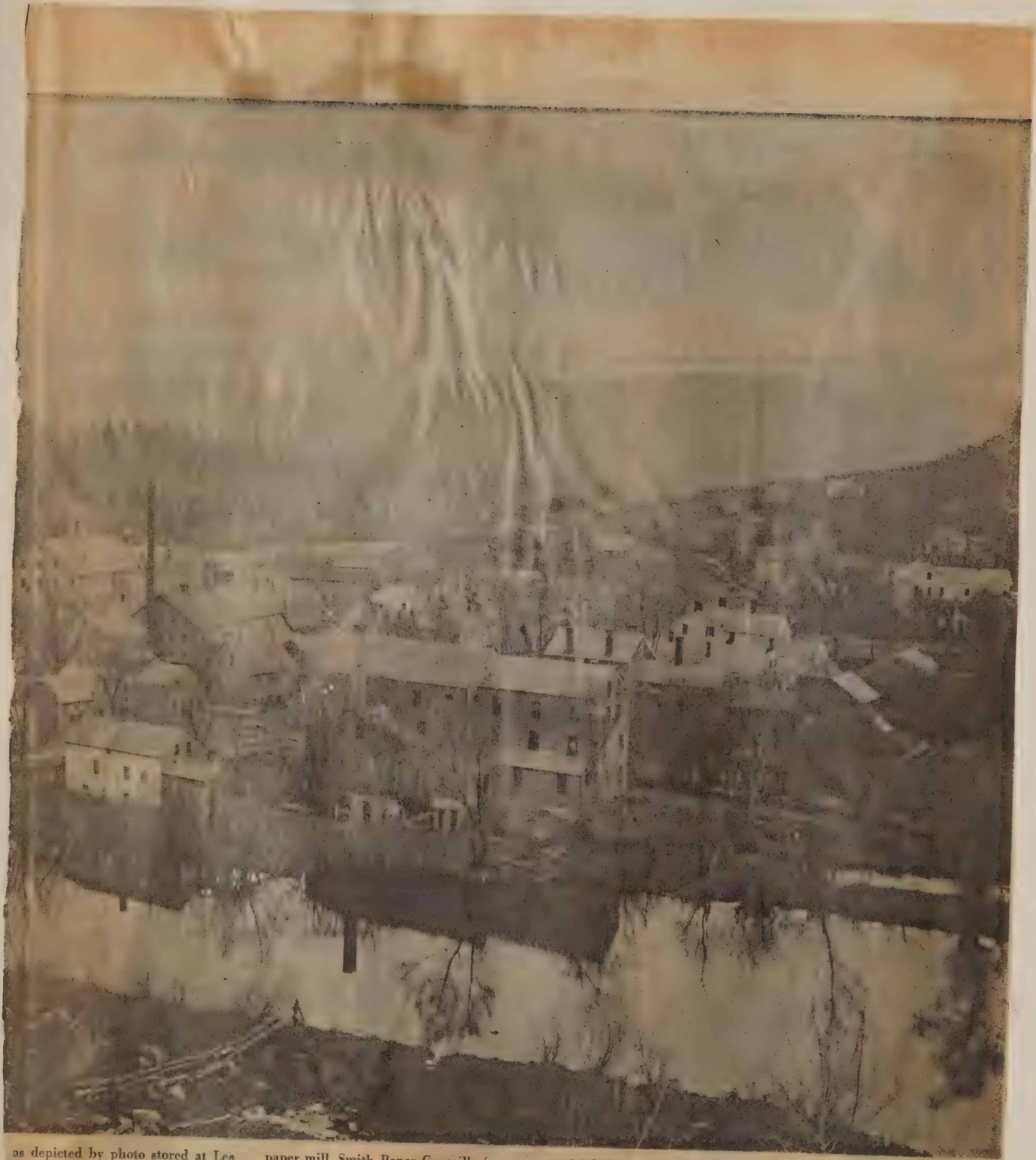
Eagle July 15 1971



Joel Librizzi

DOWNTOWN LEE as seen in this aerial photo looking north shows area (upper center and marked A) which would be site of Canon Electric, Inc., apartment development. Area at bottom center and marked B is part of the site of the proposed new shopping center planned by Dreyfus National Realty Co. Main Street running vertically on left side of photo was partially blacktopped this spring from Park Street intersection north to in front of the Wickham property, where new apartments will be built.

#53



as depicted by photo stored at Lee
from Brick Hill. At extreme upper
by the iron bridge that now carries
then known as River Street and is
& Smith paper mills and Aetna Co.

paper mill. Smith Paper Co. mills (now a part of Schweitzer Division of Kimberly-Clark Corp.) are at left center. Large building on east side of river in foreground was old wire works, now site of a Kentucky Fried Chicken concession. A barely visible white picket fence at extreme right flanked railroad tracks. At time photo was taken this seection of Lee was known as the Huddle. Mountains in Washington and Becket in the background appear in original print to be bare of trees, perhaps because wood was cut to be burned for charcoal. Photo was taken in the Spring.

Left section on next page.

54

THE BERKSHIRE HERALD — OCTOBER 31, 1973

Kimberly-Clark Purchases Bassett Homestead for $60,000

LEE — The Kimberly-Clark Corporation has purchased the 25 acre Bassett homestead here, including the 200-year-old house and barn, from Henry B. Holt of New Jersey, who inherited the property from his late uncle Hurlbert Bassett.

The homestead, one of the oldest in Lee, is adjacent to the Peter J. Schweitzer division's Greylock Mill on Greylock Street. The purchase price was $60,000, according to Fred Hartwell, general manager of Kimberly-Clark's four mills here.

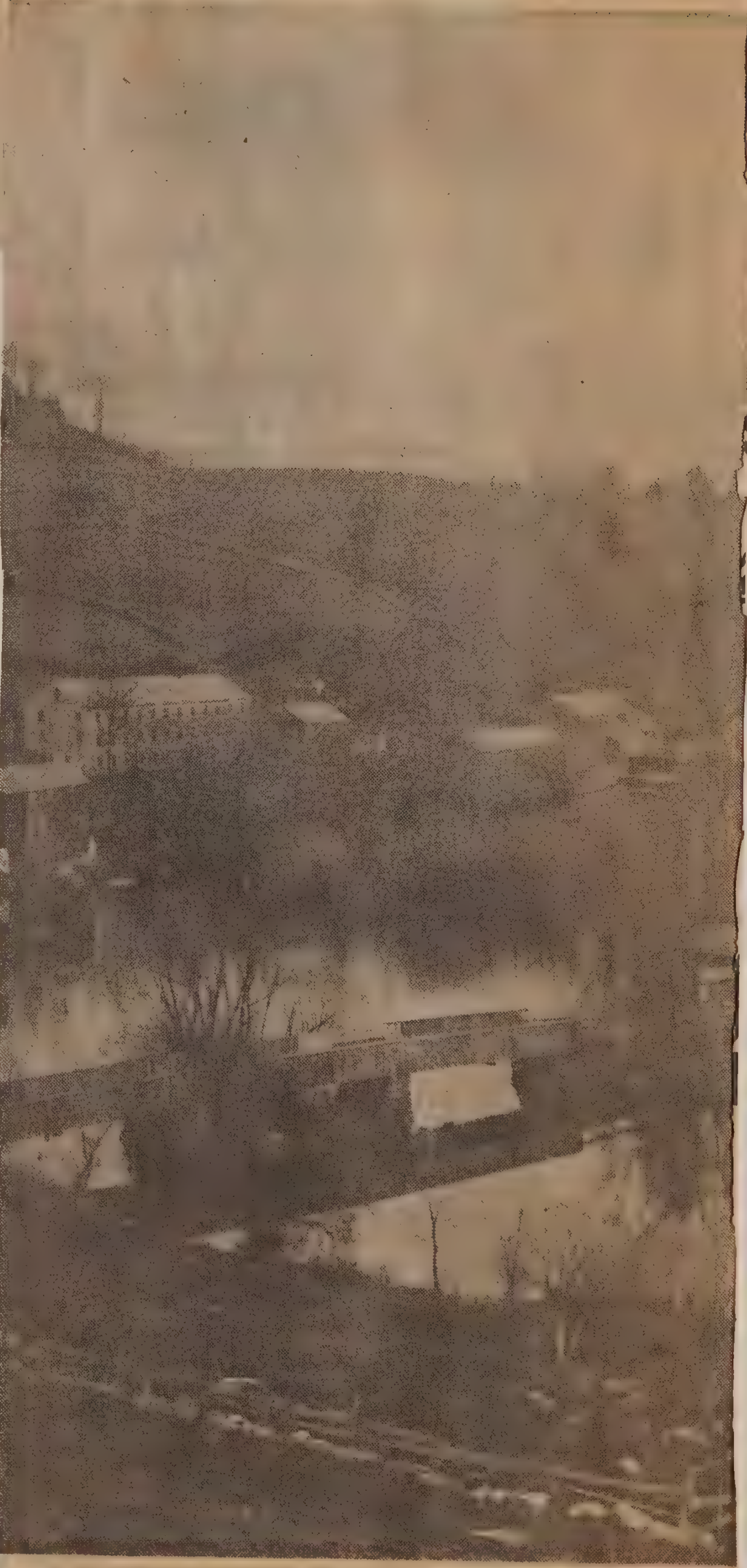
The purchase, which occurred last month, was according to terms of a 1965 agreement between Kimberly-Clark and Mr. Bassett that stipulated the property would be sold to the company, at $2,000 per acre, on the deaths of Mr. and Mrs. Bassett or at anytime they wished to sell.

Mr. Holt inherited the property and the agreement when his uncle died in 1969. Attempts by Mr. Holt to amend the agreement to allow his retention of the house and three acres were unsuccessful, according to Mr. Holt, so earlier this summer he notified Kimberly-Clark he would sell the property in September. At the same time Mr. Holt also offered to sell the house and barn for an additional $10,000 even though the agreement permitted him to relocate the house if he wished.

Last week Mr. Hartwell said Kimberly-Clark was offering the house and one acre to its local employes on a sealed-bid basis. He said the minimum bid was set at $27,000. Mr. Hartwell also said that if the successful bidder wishes to sell the house in the future, Kimberly-Clark would have the right of first refusal.

The Bassett house, which in its original design was a Cape Cod, is thought to have been built in 1777. When Mr. Holt was considering relocation of the house last summer, several members of the Lee Bicentennial Committee and a local representative of the National Register of Historic Homes said removal of the house site would be the loss of an historical landmark.

52—The Berkshire Eagle, Wednesday, April 12, 1972



NORTH CENTRAL LEE ABOUT 110 YEARS AGO looked like this,
Library. Picture was taken by an unknown photographer looking northeast
left is what is now called Navin Heights. Bridge at lower left was succeeded
Route 20 across the Housatonic River. On north side of river, along what was
now simply a right-of-way for a town sewer line, were a satinet factory, Platner

New Lee Apartments Already Attracting Tenants

By RALPH CONROY

LEE — The new Garfield Town House between Ferncliff Avenue and Academy Street off Main Street has begun renting apartments. Construction which began in early October last year is completed.

The L-shaped apartment complex containing 12 units was designed by Architect John Carroll of Lee. Ten of the units are two bedroom apartments and the remaining are three-bedroom units.

After the apartments were completed Mr. and Mrs. Garfield Canon found they liked them so well they have decided to keep one of the three-bedroom units for themselves.

On Two Levels

The apartments are on two levels, a bath and two bedrooms on the upper level and a dining room, kitchen and living room on the lower level.

Carroll said that when he designed the units he wanted to stress privacy and individuality. Each apartment has a concrete patio on the south side of the building, screened from its neighbor by a redwood basketweave privacy fence. The patios are each 16 by 8 feet, and access is through six-foot-long, ceiling-to-floor sliding glass doors replete with screening.

The kitchens are centrally located between the dining and living rooms featuring all General Electric harvest gold appliances including a dishwasher, self-cleaning oven, garbage disposal and refrigerator. The kitchen's floors are vinyl tile and the cabinets and countertops, Formica.

At each apartment's entrance foyers there is a four by four square of slate to eliminate muddy traffic on the wall to wall carpeting.

Coloring Different

The upstairs is carpeted in shag, long fibre carpeting, and the bottom floors in plush, or short fibre carpeting.

Mrs. Canon, intent on making each apartment as distinctive as possible from its neighbor, selected different colors for the carpeting, for the bathrooms and different lighting fixtures and accessories for each apartment.

"I didn't want anyone going next door to visit their neighbor and feeling as though they were back in their own apartments," she said.

The bathrooms are designed so that they are actually two units, one containing the bath and the other powder room with marble-topped bath vanity, lighted mirror and wash basin. The combination shower and tub are of fibreglass as are the walls, in either green, yellow or blue.

The front entrances and the black-topped parking and drive area is on the southern side of the the Ferncliff Avenue side of the apartments. The doors are painted in yellow, green, blue and white, eye-catching, against the antique brick of the first floor. The brick, laid in an American bond, varies from deep red to black.

Natural Exterior

The second story exterior is natural shake shingles, staggered for a more rustic appearance. The entrances are lighted by electric carriage lamps affixed to the wall near the doorways.

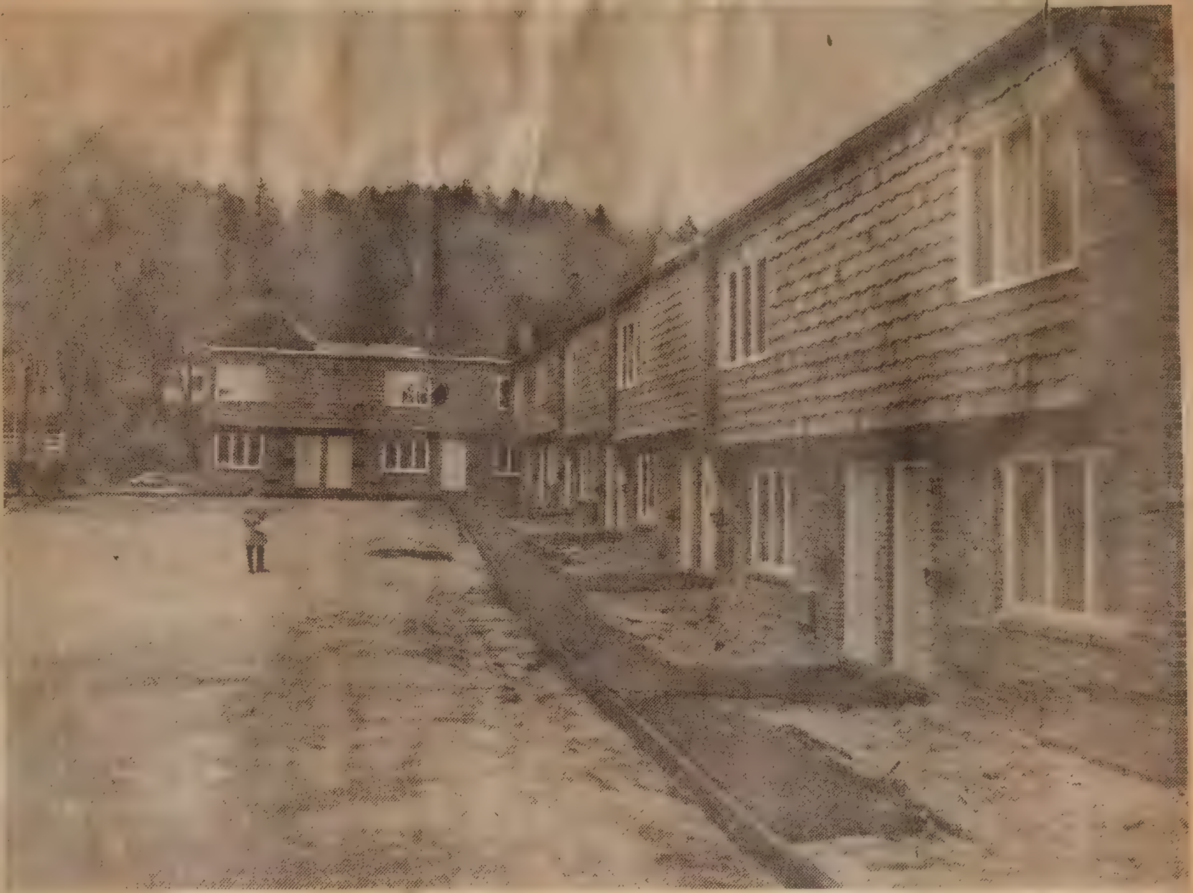
The corner room in the L-shaped complex houses a large wash basin, and several coin-operated washers and dryers. Mrs. Canon said that more will be installed if a need for them arises. Just off the room which houses the machines there is a storage room which will be divided into bins for the use of the apartment dwellers.

Waste containers will be kept to the rear of the base of the L at the eastern extreme of the building or toward High Street. The containers are those which can be picked up by a fork truck.

Cost of the apartments are about $200 each for the two bedroom units. The three bedroom units are already rented. Canon said that there are provisions for air conditioning which will be installed for tenants that want them for a slight charge. Canon estimated the total cost of the apartments to be about $200,000.

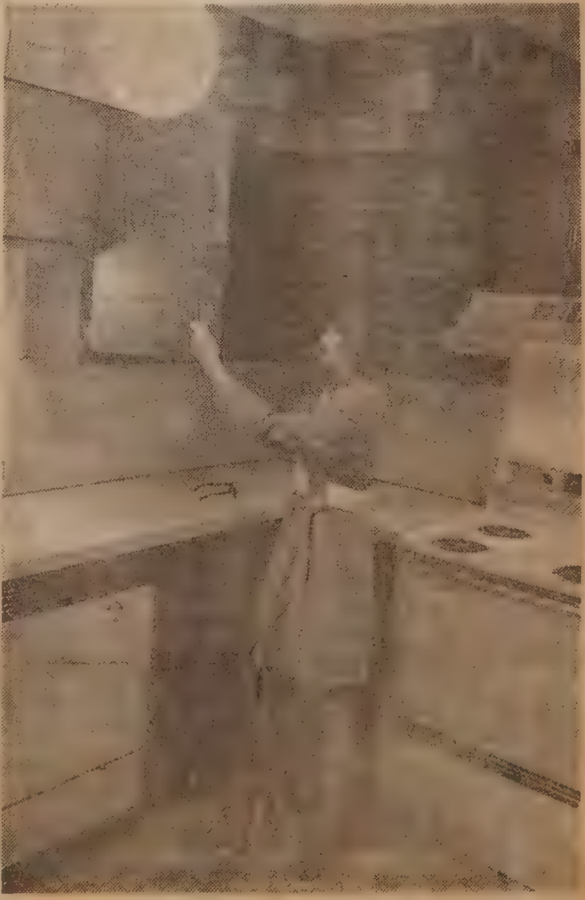
Garfield Canon himself acted as the general contractor.

The apartments are behind the Wickha mhouse at 196 Main Street across from the Lee Fire Station. The house has been remodeled into two apartments and an office.



Ralph Conroy

NEWEST APARTMENT complex in Lee is the Garfield Town House, between Academy Street and Ferncliff Avenue off Main Street and across from the Lee Fire Station. Construction began in October last year.



Ralph Conroy

CHECKING cabinet space in the recently completed Garfield Town House in Lee is Mrs. Garfield Canon, wife of the complex's builder and owner.

Heating Bonus

Many homeowners are learning that they can use their hydronic (modern hot water) home heating systems for other comforts, notes the National Better Heating-Cooling Council. Some use it to melt snow automatically from their driveways, others heat backyard swimming pools, greenhouses, add-on rooms and attached garages.

Congratulations

GARFIELD TOWN HOUSE APARTMENTS

FRED MERCER

CONSTRUCTION CO.

Cone Park, Lee, Mass. Tel. 243-0017

CONGRATULATIONS

#56

Eagle 1-20-1971

151 New Houses in Western Lee Planned by Richmond Builder

Lee

LEE — Gordon Houldsworth, a contractor from Richmond, has plans for a 151-unit subdivision southwest of the Stockbridge Road bridge over the Massachusetts Turnpike.

One house has already been built on the property, which lies on the elevated field across Stockbridge Road from Wright's Auto Body Shop, and another is in the construction stage.

Houldsworth says he has "no definite plans" as to how many houses will be built this year, but he is expected to bring the subdivision plan before the Planning Board either tonight or next week.

The houses will be four-bedroom, $30,000 to $40,000 two-story or split-level structures, each on three-quarters of an acre, Houldsworth said. However, Planning Board Chairman J. Peter Scolforo said this morning that he believes the area is zoned only for one-acre lots.

Houldsworth, who says he has had the subdivision plan for several years, built the first house "on speculation" and sold it within a month of its completion. The second house is also being built on speculation.

The area has town water, but not town sewer service. However, the contractor says the entire property has had successful percolation tests, indicating that the ground is suitable for septic system drainage.

The number of homes to be constructed in the near future will depend on "how busy" Houldsworth is and on "how the houses sell," he said.

Scolforo, who said that Houldsworth has an invitation to bring the subdivision plans before the Planning Board, said the zoning of the area will be discussed then. He said the entire subdivision plan has not yet

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In northern Lee

Aug. 6, 1972

10-lot subdivision proposed next to Golden Hill Forest

LEE — Chester Wezevitz of Laurel Street, a building contractor, has initiated action with the Planning Board to subdivide a five-acre parcel of land between Laurel Street and the Golden Hill Town Forest south of Golden Hill Road into 10 lots of around 15,000 square feet each (less than one-third of an acre).

The proposal, however, would violate the current zoning bylaws which require minimum lot sizes there of 30,000 square feet (20,000 if sewerage is installed). Under the Planning Board's new zoning proposal, the property would be zoned conservation-residential, raising the minimum lot size to three acres.

In discussions with the board, Wezevitz and his attorney, Philip A. Heller of Pittsfield, said plans for the subdivision were drawn years ago before the town had zoning. They were never filed, because Wezevitz was required to serve in the military twice and because he contracted a major illness that forced him into lengthy inactivity.

Wezevitz said he has invested most of his money in land in East Lee and the property off Laurel Street. He said that if the town adopts the three-acre minimum lot size for the Laurel Street land, he will lose a "great deal of money."

The contractor suggested at the July 26 hearing on the zoning proposal that minimum lot sizes be set at 20,000 square feet throughout the town, with some allowance for larger lots if soil is particularly bad for septic leaching.

"That way, you could buy more than one lot if you wanted a bigger piece of property," he said, "and it wouldn't be a hardship on anybody." He said the three-acre minimum would raise the price of the lots so high as to make them out of reach to most people.

Planning Board Chairman Francis D. Foley Jr. told Heller that final plans for the subdivision should be drafted and submitted prior to the Aug. 15 town meeting on the zoning proposal. Foley did not promise approval of the plans if they were redrawn to meet present zoning requirements, but he said, "Maybe we can work something out."

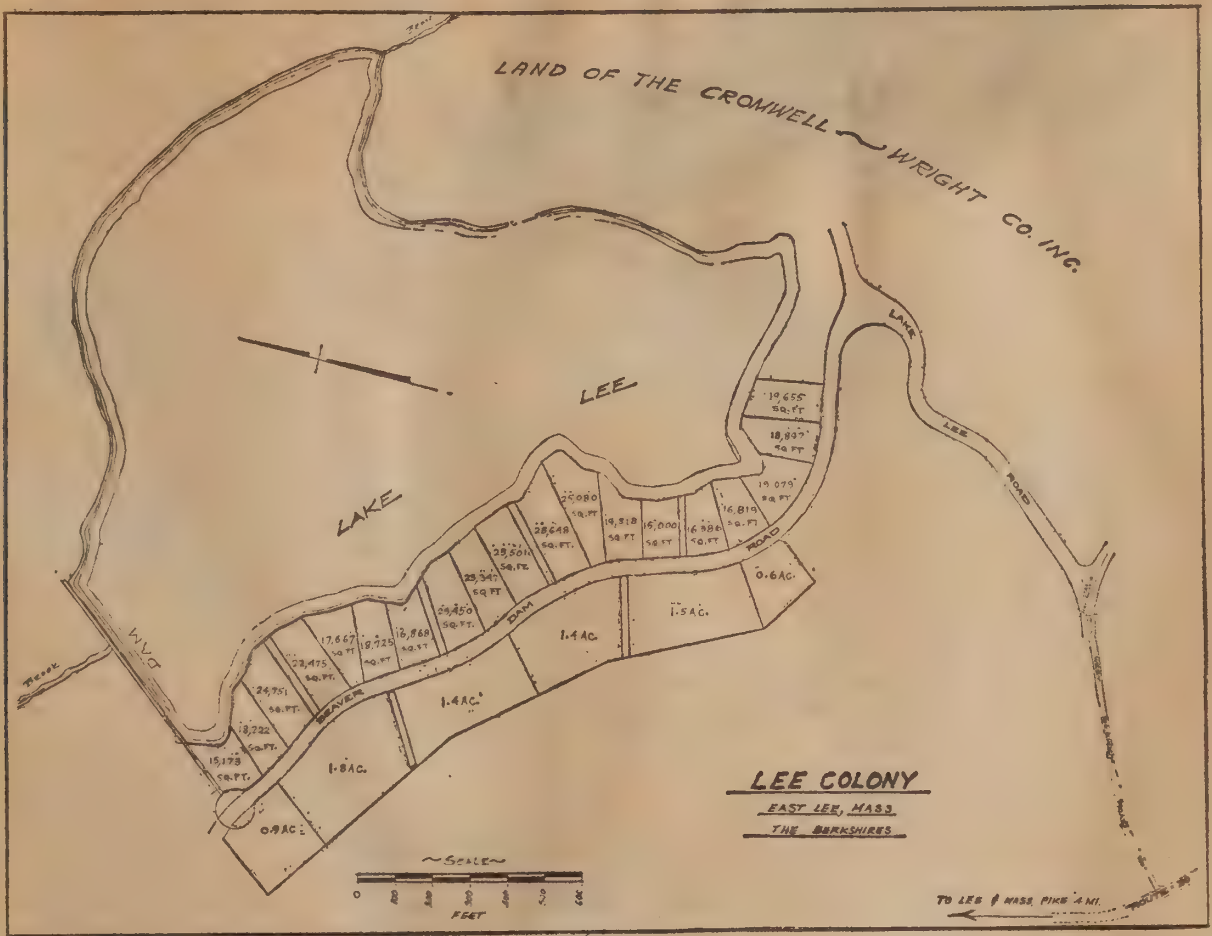
Wezevitz, however, said that he has no confidence that his plans would be approved and that he would rather have the zoning changed to make the plans legal.

Planning Board member Raymond Benton indicated that because the hearing for the new zoning had already been held, the board might not be able to approve plans that didn't conform, should the Aug. 15 town meeting approve the zoning code.

57

Apr 27 1967 Eagle

East Lee Development Increases Size of Lots


LAND OF THE CROMWELL ~ WRIGHT CO. INC.
LAKE LEE
LAKE LEE ROAD
BEAVER DAM ROAD
DAM
BROOK
19,655 SQ. FT
18,897 SQ FT
19,079 SQ FT
16,819 SQ. FT
16,386 SQ. FT
15,000 SQ FT
19,318 SQ FT
25,080 SQ. FT
28,648 SQ. FT.
25,501 SQ. FT.
23,347 SQ FT
23,450 SQ. FT.
16,868 SQ. FT
18,725 SQ. FT
17,667 SQ FT
22,475 SQ. FT.
24,751 SQ. FT.
18,222 SQ. FT.
15,173 SQ. FT.
0.6 AC.
1.5 AC.
1.4 AC.
1.4 AC.
1.8 AC.
0.9 AC.
LEE COLONY
EAST LEE, MASS
THE BERKSHIRES
~SCALE~
0
FEET
TO LEE & MASS. PIKE 4 MI.
ROUTE 20

Lee Colony development in East Lee has increased the size of back lots off the lake, so that four of them are more than an acre each. The four back lots also have a 20-foot right-of-way running between lake-front lots down to the water. The development is on Becket town line, off West Becket Road, which runs down to Route 20 at lower right.

4 Back Lots Made Greater Than Full Acre

By FRANK V. McCARTHY

EAST LEE — The Lee Colony leisure-home development on Lake Lee has tripled the size of four of the six lots that are not on the lake.

Because of the increase in size, the development has four lots encompassing more than a full acre. Lee Colony was already following a policy of dividing its land into larger lots than those offered in most Berkshire County leisure-home developments.

Water and Sewage

Some developments in the county divide their land into more than four lots per acre, or about 10,000 square feet per lot. Lee's zoning bylaws have established a minimum of 15,000 square feet, or about a third of an acre, in the Lee Colony area.

The 381-acre development lies on the north side of Route 20 in the uplands opposite Belden Tavern. The development surrounds what was formerly known both as Basin Pond and Mud Pond.

Flood of 1886

The runoff from the lake flows down to Greenwater Brook and thence down through East Lee, entering the Housatonic River south of Route 102. It was down through Greenwater Brook that the flood of 1886 roared early on the morning of April 20 when the dam at the original Mud Pond broke. Seven persons lost their lives in the flood and much of the industry of East Lee was washed out. In terms of lost industries, the village never recovered from the disaster.

The new dam, built to replace the old Mud Pond dam and create Lake Lee, is considerably more substantial than the original and has been approved by the county engineer. The dam is on the northwest side of the lake.

The only lots laid out so far are on the southwest side of the lake. One has been sold, and the two owners of the development, Hamilton Wright Jr. and Walter B. Cromwell, have each built a cottage on lake-front lots.

According to Clarence Dohoney, agent for the development, two others contracted for lots, but the contract was negated by mutual agreement and the money returned when it was discovered the buyers planned to live all year in the development. The development does not plow its roads in the winter and does not plan to ask the town to take over the roads, since this would reduce the privacy of the development.

Anchored Islands

Efforts to sell lots last summer were discontinued when portions of the bottom of the lake floated to the surface, creating islands anchored by roots. The lake was emptied last fall, the bottom was bulldozed, and the lake has refilled this spring to the top of the spillway.

Most distinguishing aspect of Lee Colony development is its seven-page code of restrictions, typed single-spaced. Under the restrictions, Lee Colony must approve of the exact location and design of all structures built, minimum dimensions of these structures are spelled out, minimum standards for upkeep are specified, and uses to which the properties may be put are governed.

Mt. Greylock Honor Roll

WILLIAMSTOWN — A total of 225 students made the

Gillooley, Deborah Haig. Ralph

Plan outlined in Becket for leisure-home club

By Dorothy Chapman

BECKET — Town Counsel Albert S. Silverman will be asked to review a proposal by a leisure home developer to divide a 235-acre tract near Bonny Rigg Corner into private camp sites.

John Galanek, president of Chamonix Chalet Properties, Inc., of Tolland, asked the Selectmen and Planning Board last night if a license is required to operate the type of campground he is proposing, and if a permit is necessary to erect a sign on the property.

After more than an hour of discussion, Selectman George A. Wechter said while such permits are not required under existing bylaws, the matter will be referred to Silverman for investigation.

Lots won't be sold

Those members of the Planning Board present indicated they felt that the proposal does not come under subdivision control regulations since individuals will not be sold lots. The developer's customers will merely be buying membership in the Becket East Club, Inc.

A 1971 bylaw which refers to the use of trailers or mobile homes states that "no such vehicles shall be parked or affixed on a foundation or relocated within the limits of town for a period of more than 30 days, other than on a duly authorized motor trailer parking lot, except by special permit issued by the Board of Appeals after a public hearing."

Paul C. Metcalf of the Planning Board agreed with a letter sent by Robert A. Mason, former selectman, stating that the wording of the trailer bylaw is "hazy."

He said, "This trailer-type development might seriously impact on other developments within the town."

Wechter said nothing in the bylaws covers camping areas.

State regulation

Although ordinary zoning and subdivision controls may not apply to Galanek's plan, the developer agreed that the tract will come under state regulations governing campgrounds.

Since two small ponds are included in plans, the approval of the state Departments of Natural Resources and Public Works will also be needed.

As described by Galanek, the development would include about 240 individual camping sites scattered throughout the 235 acres. The lots would vary in size, but none would be smaller than 15,000 square feet, which is about one-third of an acre. The bylaws establish a one-acre minimum for regular building lots.

Each camp site would have a bituminous parking pad where water, power and sanitation connections would be provided. A clubhouse, caretaker's residence and tennis courts are also planned.

Galanek invited the Selectmen to visit the 745-acre Wildwood leisure - home development which his company is completing in Tolland.

He claims the Becket East plan will answer a need for those who want, but cannot afford, leisure-home sites. He said that this is the first of this type of camping proposed in the Northeast and added that it will be the "best recreational-camping community" in New England.

$7,450 to join

As Galanek described the plan, memberships would cost approximately $7,450 initially, with approximately $300 assessed each year thereafter for maintenance.

Galanek stressed that under a bulky set of rules and restrictive covenants, which he said would be filed with the Berkshire County Registry of Deeds, campers would not be allowed to stay at the camp year-round.

Local officials voiced concern that once ensconced in the area, campers might attempt to enroll children in the schools, thus creating increased costs to the town with little return from the corporation in taxes.

Galanek asserted that this would not be the case because of the regulations that must be agreed upon by campers. He said that if necessary, he would be willing to make an agreement with the town to assure it that no year-round residency would be allowed.

Galanek estimated that a minimum of $10,000 per year in tax money would be realized from the proposal.

Bicentennial group named in Chester

CHESTER — The Selectmen

8-25-73

Becket commission okays dam for leisure home project

BECKET — Plans for a 68-acre lake and a reinforced earthen dam across the Spark Brook in the Indian Lake Estates, a 270-acre leisure home development off Bonny Rigg Hill and Algerie roads, were approved by the Selectmen Thursday night in their capacity as the town's Conservation Commission.

The public hearing was attended by William F. Young of West Springfield, attorney for the development and James Hansann a principal in the corporation.

Other principals are Samuel M. Boyd and Donald F. Adeletti of Springfield.

Engineering for the project was done by Robert G. Brown & Associates of Lee.

The development was approved under the subdivision control bylaws by the Planning Board on July 23.

According to Young, the dam will be approximately 10 feet high to enclose a lake which will be about the size of Yokum Pond. The average depth will be 7 to 10 feet, he said.

Hansann said work for the construction of the lake and dam will be put out to bid.

John C. Boomsma, chairman of the board, told the developers that the town would require assurances that "the countryside will not be torn up." He said some developers have come in and "left the area in a devil of a mess."

Young said this would not happen, and added that construction of the dam and lake would probably go to local contractors who would not be paid until the area is cleaned up.

He said developers would like to have the pond on the tract by springtime, with rough work roads cut this fall. He hopes to start selling the 67 lots by next summer.

All buyers of the sites would be required to build houses worth at least $20,000, with poured foundations and two-car garages. At least 1,200 square feet of living space would have to be provided, and all homes must be one and one-half story structures. Sewage would be handled via septic tanks, all of which would be at least 50 feet from the lake.

Purchase price of the sites will start at approximately $10,000, with those bordering the common strip costing more. The sites will be marketed through television, newspaper and radio advertising.

No motorboats will be allowed on the lake and no snowmobiles, motorcyles, trailers or temporary buildings will be allowed in the development.

Buyers of the property would form an association and each owner would have one vote in the association meetings.

Others presiding at the hearing besides Boomsma, were Selectmen George A. Wechter and Roland A. Daigle. Planning Board members Uhlan T. Murray, Paul Metcalf and Albert R. Palmer also were present.

2/14/75 Eagle

LEE TOWN COUNSEL James P. Dohoney, left, reviews an agreement signed last night by the Planning Board and the developers of Leisure Lee, with Leisure Lee lawyer Alfred A. Barbalunga. At right is Planning Board secretary Helen Bruneau.

Leisure Lee developers, town board settle dispute over subdivision plans

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — The Planning Board and developers of Leisure Lee last night reached an agreement that will allow the process of reviewing and licensing the definitive plans for the Goose Pond development to continue.

The board's deliberations on the plans of developer Eugene DelVecchio and Barnum Investment Group, Inc., have been delayed for the last two months. DelVecchio's initial definitive subdivision plan was rejected by the board as insufficient last Nov. 13.

DelVecchio filed a civil complaint in December against the board when the planners said they might increase the minimum size at Leisure Lee from one to three acres.

Carefully worded

Last night's agreement, forged by Town Counsel James P. Dohoney and DelVecchio's lawyer, Alfred A. Barbalunga of Pittsfield, will be introduced today in Superior Court. It is a carefully worded agreement which absolves both DelVecchio and the board of liability.

The agreement states that:

—The original plans submitted by DelVecchio did not meet Planning Board regulations.

—The Planning Board did not hold the required hearing on those plans but, instead, rejected the application, relying only on the town's regulations.

—DelVecchio's initial subdivision plans were legally rejected last November by the board, and that acceptable plans have subsequently been submitted and will be duly considered by the board:

—DelVecchio's plans will be considered under the regulations in force at the time the original plans were submitted last September, meaning the board will allow one-acre lots. (The zoning laws were altered in October to require three-acre lots).

—The Superior Court suit that was filed by DelVecchio against the board will be dismissed without prejudice to either party. The suit had been over the size of the lots.

—The Planning Board will extend the processing time of the Leisure Lee applications until April 1.

—Nothing in the agreement reached between the two parties will bind the Planning Board in approving or disapproving the Leisure Lee definitive subdivision plans.

The board also approved a motion by member Sally Weiss to retain a civil engineer to inspect DelVecchio's plans for drainage in Leisure Lee.

The board said last December the system must be adequate to insure that the town will not have to bear future improvement costs.

Chairman Dana P. LaDuke said he would attempt to find an engineer by next Monday's board meeting.

A public hearing on the Leisure Lee plans will be held Thursday, Feb. 13, at 7:30 in the Town Hall.

Books

Eagle 10/23/1976 - Book J

Ted Shawn minus the seven veils

Jack Mitchell

Shawn and St. Denis photographed in New York City on their 50th wedding anniversary in 1964.

TED SHAWN: Father of American Dance. By Walter Terry. The Dial Press, New York, 1976. 186 pp. $10.

Reviewed by
RICHARD V. HAPPEL

WALTER TERRY'S brutally frank biography of the late Ted Shawn actually reveals little that wasn't generally assumed about the man who made male dancing respectable in America. Yes, he was homosexual. Yes, he was an egomaniac, and yes, he "used" the people he attracted to him with almost naive disregard for their feelings or personal interests. And he would drop them just as casually when he deemed their use to him was over.

He seemed to feel that what they did was a contribution to the dance in general, ignoring that most of it sustained or advanced his own interests as well. And that they might feel crushed when banished from "the presence" was past his comprehension.

However, Mr. Terry does reveal a side to the wedded life of Shawn and his wife, Ruth St. Denis, which certainly wasn't known publicly during the long years of the Denishawn Dancers, a lucrative project in which they were, indeed, united, far more securely than in their marriage. For years, the company toured the nation in the early 1900s, and its stars were loved by their millions of admirers as the ideal married couple in show business: Shawn, handsome and manly; his wife, willowly and transcendingly beautiful through 14 years his senior.

* * *

Actually, the lovely St. Denis was constantly unfaithful to her husband, having endless affairs with, as Shawn complained, nobodies — pimply youths and the like. Moreover, she made no effort to conceal her transgressions from her husband. Indeed, she rather taunted him about them. Shawn blames his "gayness" on the torment he felt during those long years of his wife's philandering. He decided he never again would allow a woman to subject him to so much torment.

When Shawn founded Jacob's Pillow near Lee around 1930, he and Miss Ruth had separated, but they never were divorced. He established his company of men dancers there in 1933, and they continued until 1940. I covered and reviewed almost every Jacob's Pillow program from 1933 until now, except during the war years.

* * *

Contradictions crop up between the book and what we personally heard Shawn say. Probably no blame for anyone. For example, Walter Terry writes that the coast-to-coast tours were immensely profitable. But Shawn once commented to us that "during the tours, a quarter-million dollars passed through our hands. And I mean passed. Once when we'd returned to New York from touring, Ruth came into our office with some figures on a sheet of paper. She said, 'Teddy, isn't there some way we can be poor without working so hard?' "

Madam La Meri (her real name was Merriweather), a dynamic, witty and striking exponent of ethnic dance, was for years a tremendous drawing card at the Pillow, often crowding the theatre more than Shawn did when he danced. This rasped his ego.

Also, our sometimes rather glowing reviews of La Meri must have rankled him, too. We dropped by La Meri's dressing room one afternoon following her performance and were chatting when Shawn came in. Petulantly, he remarked, "Why don't you sleep together?" Chuckling in her deep Texas drawl, La Meri retorted, "Now, that's an *idee.*"

In another review, we commented that Shawn, who danced on the program, appeared to have put on a little weight. A week later, when we arrived to review the next program, he marched determinedly across the parking lot and said angrily, "Actually, I *lost* five pounds!"

* * *

On still another occasion, we did an appreciative review when he was called on in a sudden emergency to fill a program gap by dancing his "Dervish" number — revolving steadily on one spot during the entire work. When we next met him backstage a week later, he made a point of saying in front of the company that he was so moved by the review "that I took it up to my room and *cried.*" No, he didn't mean that in a derogatory sense.

Perhaps there was a key to the frequent and often turbulent changes his career took. He once told me, "My life has run in definite seven-year cycles."

* * *

As Terry's book says, Shawn bore many crosses in his career, and we might touch on one which he bore with ill grace. He and the Becket Selectmen were at odds during most of his life at Jacob's Pillow. It started when they assessed the Pillow right off at a high rate, classifying it as a "dance hall." And he fought tooth and nail for tax-free status because of the educational nature of the Pillow.

Shawn at times irritated some audience members by presenting an "Introduction" before the opening curtain at each new, weekly program. Some argued that they had come to see dancing, not to hear Shawn. And some of us constant reviewers learned to gauge the coming program by the length and warmth of Shawn's introduction. The longer and hotter, the more likely a weak performance followed.

* * *

At least in the beginning of Jacob's Pillow, and far along in its history, we felt that in his heart Shawn was convinced most of the audience were yokels, and just about all the local citizens were even worse. Frequently, in his local contacts, his attitude verged on the imperious. This put off local folks and may, in part, account for the fact that neither he nor the Pillow ever were heartily accepted here.

But during our long association with the dance center, we became convinced that Shawn literally lived, breathed and existed only to advance the art of dance in the United States. Personality quirks and oddities must fade in the light of his heroic accomplishments.

Leisure Lee's preliminary plans for 2nd subdivision are approved

LEE — Leisure Lee developer Eugene DelVecchio won Planning Board approval Tuesday of the preliminary plans for a second subdivision at his Goose Pond vacation-home project.

But planners attached four conditions, which they say must be met before the developer will receive the definitive-plan approval he needs to begin work on the additional 90 lots.

Those conditions require DelVecchio to seek lot-by-lot percolation tests for septic systems, rather than a single test; to construct 28-foot-wide paved roadways and 50-foot rights of way; and to recheck a list of abutters to the project.

Warning on deeds

Additionally, DelVecchio will have to include a warning on final plans filed with the Berkshire County Registry of Deeds, that prospective owners must accept existing surface-water conditions at the sites and that the town will not be responsible for any future drainage projects needed to correct those conditions.

The requirement for lot-by-lot percolation tests follows attempts by town sanitarian Peter Kolodziej to conduct a single test at the new subdivision.

Kolodziej was unable to complete the tests to his satisfaction because access roads haven't yet been constructed and it was impossible for backhoes to get through the densely wooded area to dig test holes.

The Planning Board's action allows DelVecchio to proceed with the development before passing percolation tests, although he does so at the risk that some lots may subsequently not pass. If they don't, DelVecchio will not be able to build upon them.

The correct road and right-of-way dimensions called for by the Planning Board, which originate in the town subdivision control regulations, were meant to have been included in the plans, DelVecchio said Tuesday night.

He said that dimensions included in earlier plans, ones that planners had rejected, were inadvertantly included in the new plans.

The requirement that DelVecchio update a list of abutters is a procedural one rather than a substantive one, planners said. DelVecchio compiled the list from assessors' records, and agreed to recheck it to eliminate any omissions.

Concerns about drainage conditions in the new subdivision, voiced by members of the town Department of Public Works (DPW), prompted the Planning Board's decision to ask that a warning about them be included on the final plans.

Terrain in the new subdivision is hilly, and members of both the Planning Board and the DPW think that drainage problems could occur at lots in low-lying areas.

DelVecchio said he is reluctant to install major drainage systems there because he wants to disturb natural topographical conditions as little as possible.

Although he indicated that some ditches and culverts would be installed, he said that deeds for the lots would include requirements that owners accept existing surface-water conditions.

Members of both boards agreed to the provision, so long as the deed restriction was included on the plan filed with the Registry of Deeds, and so long as the restriction specified that expenses of subsequent drainage systems would be borne by the owner and the developer, not the town.

Within a month

Planners cautioned DelVecchio that approval of his preliminary plans in no way implied a subsequent approval of definitive plans, which he must have before he can proceed with the subdivision. He expects to file definitive plans within a month.

DelVecchio first brought plans for the second subdivision to the Planning Board last September, and later asked for waivers of 15 of the subdivision control regulations. In January, planners granted eight of the waivers and denied seven.

DelVecchio's first subdivision, consisting of approximately 170 lots, was approved in 1967. At that time, plans for the project envisioned an ultimate total of 200 homes on 300 acres south of Route 20 in East Lee.

To date, 47 leisure homes have been constructed at the site. Another 81 lots have been sold, according to DelVecchio.

Lee may use WWII bonds to buy Railroad St. property

LEE — Some federal war bonds bought by the town in 1943 may be used to partially finance the purchase of two Railroad Street buildings currently under consideration by town officials for additional office space

Called "Postwar Rehabilitation Funds," the bonds were purchased by the town during World War II when capital investments could not be made because of the war effort. Town officials can't pinpoint the amount spent on the bonds in 1943, but estimates range from $25,000 to $40,000.

Interest on the bonds, minus funds spent some years ago on two projects associated with the town library, brings the current value of the account to $89,514.54, according to Lee Savings Bank officials, custodians of the account.

The buildings under consideration are owned by Fred R. LaGrant of West Park Street, and until early January housed the snowmobile and motorcycle distribution operations of Bombardier East

LaGrant offered the buildings to the town in February, after Bombardier East closed its operations here, for $125,000. The buildings — one contains offices and the other storage and garage space — are currently assessed at $94,400.

Although the town has made no formal decision to purchase the property, town officials are enthusiastic about it. Town Hall office space is now so restricted that School Department and Board of Health offices are in rented space.

The town Department of Public Works also wants space in the storage and garage building to house equipment and supplies which are currently in an aged Quonset hut next to the LaGrant property.

Selectmen also envision blacktopping land south of the buildings to provide added public parking.

LaGrant originally wanted the town to pay for the buildings in 10 annual installments of $15,000, he total representing the purchase price plus $25,000 in interest. But the town is legally prohibited from entering into such time-payment arrangements.

LaGrant hasn't yet said whether he'll accept a lump-sum payment or not. Town officials, however, are studying the possibility of making two payments.

That arrangement would allow the town to complete payment within one fiscal year, meeting its statutory obligation to do so, but permit LaGrant to get the money in two different tax years, reducing the income tax he would have to pay on the total.

Paperboy or girl to deliver in the area of Center, High and School streets, Lee. 51 papers. Call Eagle. Office, Great Barrington, 528-3660.—Adv.

Photo finishing with quality control. Lee News Room. —Adv.

East Lee Civic Association Is Formed by 46 Residents

LEE — The East Lee Civic Association was born last night when 46 residents attended an organizational meeting at the District Courtroom.

P. J. Eberth was elected president of the group, Donald I. Fillio, vice president; Ralph Eckert, treasurer, and Mrs. Joseph R. Lawrence, secretary. Charles C. Wilson was named chairman of the Board of Directors, and Robert J. Turner, Richard Keinath, Mrs. Florence V. Rand and Francis N. Palardy were elected directors.

The group discussed problems confronting the East Lee area and established five three-member committees to study the problems and make recommendations. The committees will deal with traffic and street lighting, industrial encroachment, the growing problem of abandoned houses, playgrounds and association membership.

Mrs. Samuel J. Huggins of the South Lee Civic Association led a delegation from that organization and answered questions about how the South Lee group had been organized and solved some of the town problems.

The directors will meet later this week to draw up bylaws for the association.

3-22-73

Finnerty heads E. Lee Assn.

LEE — Kevin Finnerty of Cape Street was unanimously elected chairman of the East Lee Civic Association at the sixth annual dinner meeting held recently at the East Lee Steak House. He succeeds Thomas R. Garrity.

Donald Fillio was elected vice president, succeeding Nils Guttormsen. Re-elected were Robert Guttormsen, treasurer, and Mrs. Esther Turner, secretary. The group's next meeting will be April 9 at 7:30 at Finnerty's home.

Eagle 3-14-67

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The directors will meet later this week to draw up bylaws for the association.

63

Petricca buys 20 acres in East Lee

LEE—Basil A. Petricca, vice president of the Petricca Construction Co. of Pittsfield, has purchased approximately 20 acres of wooded land here.

The property lies off the north side of Route 20 east of the Massachusetts Turnpike overpass. The property was purchased for $1,200—$60 an acre—from Ralph R. Worden of Great Barrington, Petricca said.

He said he bought the property, which has no road frontage, because it adjoins a parcel of about 60 acres of wooded land he already owns. Petricca said he would not develop the properties nor use them as storage space. He said he has no plans whatsoever for the parcels.

4-12-67

The Berkshire Eagle, Wedn

Le

LEE BUREAU

East Lee Assn. Drafts Eight Resolutions

LEE — The East Lee Civic Association Monday night drafted eight resolutions at a meeting attended by some 34 of the 125 members.

Heading the list of resolutions was the decision to request that a zoning study be made in the interest of keeping East Lee a rural community with no industry.

The members also asked the town to investigate the possibility of installing a sewer system in East Lee and also that a mail collection box be placed somewhere in that area. President Peter J. Eberth explained that residents must drive to Lee to mail a letter.

Leisure Home Lots

The association also voted to ask the Planning Board to investigate the reported sale of lots in the new Leisure Lee development there. Eberth said he thinks the building lots being sold are smaller than town minimum-size requirements.

Street light improvements were asked by the members and information on measures that could be taken to prevent the opening up of new gravel beds in East Lee.

Having received a questionnaire from the Civic Center Study Committee, the association voted to endorse the proposal in principal with the observation that the town should first pay for its water and sewer improvements before embarking on a civic center plan.

The final resolution appointed a committee to raise the money needed to operate the association.

E. Lee barn to be razed

LEE — The Selectmen have asked the Public Works Commission to raze a barn at the rear of the former Catherine A. Butler property on Cape Street.

According to the Selectmen, Henry M. Donahoe, town counsel, said the building may be razed once it is condemned by the building inspector.

Received complaints

It was Edward F. Briggs, the building inspector, who first brought the matter to the attention of the Selectmen. Briggs said he had received many complaints from people in the area about children playing in the barn, which is ready to collapse.

A tax lien was put on the property for unpaid taxes, May 12, 1971. Under the law, on that date next year, the town may take possession of the site. The taxes are $3,986.17, with an additional interest charge of $883.61 for a total of $4,869.78. The taxes have not been paid since 1959. Cost of the demolition would be added to the unpaid tax bills, Selectmen said.

Briggs has suggested that debris from the barn be buried on the property.

Another building on the same property housed the East Lee post office and general store. The federal government closed the post office in 1963, and the store closed about six months later.

Selectmen have taken no action against the old post office building. However, in 1967, state Building Inspector James T. Goggins of Pittsfield told the town that the building should be made safe, or perhaps demolished.

During an inspection, Goggins found the building "open, strewn with furniture, rags and paper, and with leaking roof, sagging ceilings and the like." Since that time the building has been boarded up, but remains one of the chief eyesores in Lee.

Paper mill odor draws

Republican Town Committee

3/23/7

Tax taking to bring heir from Nevada

LEE—Heirs of the late William Butler of Pittsfield, who owned a house in East Lee that was formerly used as a post office and general store, are returning to Lee from Nevada to see if the property is worth paying back taxes on to keep the town from taking it.

Town Counsel Henry Donahoe sent a letter to the Selectmen this week indicating that the Butler heirs may pay more than $8,000 in taxes which haven't been paid since 1959. Tax Collector Howard A. Fenwick said the building is owned by Miss Mary Ellen Kiley, grandniece of the late Mrs. Katherine Kiley, who was Butler's daughter. Included in the property is a fifth of an acre of land.

Selectmen disagree

Selectmen Martin H. Deely and Edward F. Murray agreed that if Miss Kiley is willing to pay the back taxes, she can have the property, even though the town if it wishes, may take full title this spring. Selectman John J. Wheeler disagreed, saying the town has "carried the taxes long enough," and now has the right to take the land.

Several residents have expressed interest in the property and have offered to buy it in an auction, or to remove the building materials at no cost for construction elsewhere.

Fenwick said Miss Kiley has two years after the land is sold at auction to buy back the property from its new owner. To do so, however, she would have to go to court, and would have to reimburse the new owner for all funds invested in the property.

8/10/73

Lawrence Burns

CHECKS for $12,500, the state's share of the Lee-Lenox purchase of 15.8 acres off Laurel Lake, were presented yesterday by Matthew B. Connelly of the DNR, left, at the Curtis Hotel. Next to him are Warren A. Turner, former chairman of the Lee Conservation Commission and the man credited with the idea for the project; William F. Powers, present chairman of the Lee commission, and George L. Darey, chairman of the Lenox Board.

State turns over Laurel Lake funds

LENOX — Matthew B. Connelly, director of conservation services for the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR), yesterday gave Lee and Lenox each a check for $12,500. The money is the state's share of the purchase by the two towns of 15.8 acres of land adjoining Laurel Lake.

The presentation was made at a luncheon at the Curtis Hotel sponsored by George S. Wislocki, executive director of the Berkshire Natural Resources Council. Wislocki invited Lee and Lenox officials and regional directors of the DNR, Douglas Poland and Robert S. Lear. State Sen. John H. Fitzpatrick, Rep. Sidney Q. Curtiss and Rep. Dennis J. Duffin failed to appear.

The checks were given to the conservation commission chairmen, William F. Powers of Lee and George L. Darey of Lenox.

Approved at special town meetings in the spring of 1972, the project involved purchases of 11.8 acres of meadow in Lenox and four acres of shoreland in Lee at a total cost of $100,000. Half of the price was reimbursed last summer by the federal government, and the state reimbursement covers one-quarter. One-eighth was paid each of the towns.

Connelly said the joint purchase from Foxhollow School is the first such project in the state to win approval under the combined state and federal Self-Help program.

Written into the agreement between Lee and Lenox are stipulations that the land be used only for conservation and recreational purposes and that no use can be made of the land unless authorized by the conservation commissions of both towns.

The selectmen of the towns have also proposed a joint Laurel Lake commission to regulate development and control pollution of the entire lake.

Wislocki praised Warren A. "Casey" Turner for having conceived of the proposal when he was chairman of the Lee Conservation Commission. The Natural Resources Council director also thanked town counsels Henry M. Donahoe of Lee and Hugh C. Cowhig of Lenox for having "worked through immense legal tangles" in acquiring the land.

Turner suggested that the commissions thank the Foxhollow School for selling the land to the towns instead of to a Great Barrington real estate brokerage firm which had planned a subdivision there.

Parishioners honor Lenox pastor

Helen Donovan

MARKING 25 YEARS at Trinity Church in Lenox last night was the Rev. Robert S.S. Whitman, center. Among those on hand to honor the rector were the Rev. W. David Crockett, left, who is diocesan canon, and John J. Pignatelli, right, who is local selectmen chairman.

LENOX — About 125 Trinity Church parishoners rallied at the church last night to honor the Rev. Robert S.S. Whitman, their rector for 25 years.

Mr. Whitman came to Trinity in 1949 after holding posts at St. Martin's in Pittsfield, with the U.S. Army in the Philippines, at the College of William & Mary and at Bruton Parish Church in Williamsburg, Va. He preached his first sermon here on Oct. 1, 1949.

Active in Community

Since coming here, he has been active in a number of church and community activities, including the local Kiwanis Club, the Southern Berkshire Deanery and the Diocesan Council. He has also taught religion at Foxhollow School and has served as chaplain at Meadow Place.

On hand to honor Mr. Whitman last night were Selectmen John J. Pignatelli, John P. Halpin and George R. Lagarce; The Rev. Robert Granfeldt, vicar of St. Helena's Chapel; The Rev. Robert Freeman, rector of St. George's Church in Lee, and The Rev. W. David Crockett, canon and assistant to the bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts.

Cite youth work

"I can't say enough about Mr. Whitman," said Pignatelli, who cited the minister's work with local youth and in other Lenox activities. Also speaking were Senior Warden Harold R. Felton, who recalled Mr. Whitman's arrival at the church 25 years ago; Junior Warden George E. Mole, who on behalf of the church women presented Mr. Whitman with a gift certificate to the Photo Shop in Pittsfield, and Canon Crockett.

"We really feel quite unworthy of all this, and very privileged to have spent 25 years with you," responded Mr. Whitman.

A church supper preceded the ceremonies, which were planned as a surprise for the minister.

Stock Averages

(Noon) Dow-Jones (First Albany Corp.)

30 Industrials	759.72	—3.63
20 Transp.	152.22	—1.84
15 Utilities	106.15	— .45

Sales 5,000,000

Second Section

The Berkshire Eagle

Pittsfield, Massachusetts, Monday, October 19, 1970

4 Berkshire Women Killed in Maine Crash

CUMBERLAND, Me. — A one week vacation trip to Nova Scotia ended in tragedy Saturday when three women from Lee, Mass., and a woman from nearby Stockbridge, were killed in an automobile accident on the Maine Turnpike. Two companions from Lee were reported to be in fair condition this morning at the Maine Medical Center in Portland.

Killed in the crash were Mrs. Doris LaGrant, 47, of East Main Street, Stockbridge, identified as the operator of the car; Mrs. Marjorie Wells, 52, and Mrs. Leona B. Manchester, 75, both of Pine Street, South Lee; and Mrs. Patricia A. LaGrant, 47, of Park View Terrace, Lee.

Mrs. Katherine E. Derrick, 43, of Pine Street, South Lee, was reported this morning in fair condition in a special-care unit at the medical center. She was initially reported Sunday morning to be in critical condition at the Portland Medical Center following surgery for chest and internal injuries.

In Fair Condition

Miss Renee A. Beaujean, 43, of Pine Street, South Lee, was also reported in fair condition this morning at the Maine Medical Center, where she is recuperating from multiple cuts and shoulder injuries.

According to Maine state police, the six women were travelling south on the 70 miles-per-hour Maine Turnpike at approximately 1 p.m. Saturday when the car went out of control as it was passing a bus. The car hurtled broadside into a bridge abutment on the median strip. Police attributed the cause of the accident to turbulence from the bus or high gusty winds which affected the heavily loaded 1968 station wagon.

The car traveled on the median a short distance, police said, before it slid into the abutment sideways with full force. Mrs. Doris LaGrant and Mrs. Manchester were pronounced dead at the scene of the accident. Mrs. Wells died en route to the Maine Medical Center 12 miles from the scene and Mrs. Patricia A. LaGrant died at the hospital six hours later.

The LaGrant women were married to brothers and Mrs. Manchester was the aunt of Mrs. Wells and the mother of Miss Beaujean.

Mrs. Leona Manchester

Mrs. Leona (Beaujean) Manchester was the widow of Olin Manchester. She was a lifelong resident of Lee and was employed as a secretary at the Stockbridge Coal and Grain Co. for many years. She was a longtime member of the Lee Grange.

Mrs. Manchester leaves her daughter, Miss Renee Beaujean, who was injured in the crash, and a sister, Mrs. Ernest Gilbert of Great Barrington.

Friends may make donations to the Church of the Good Shepherd of South Lee.

Mrs. Marjorie Wells

Mrs. Marjorie Beaujean Wells was the widow of G. Edward Wells and was born in Pittsfield. She spent most of her life in Lee and was employed as a secretary at the Peter J. Schweitzer Division of Kimberly-Clark Corp.

She leaves a son, Dean, of Lee and three daughters, Mrs. Wilbur J. Hunt and Mrs. Martin Abderhalden of Lee and Mrs. Ronald Brown of Schenectady, N.Y.

Friends may make donations to the Church of the Good Shepherd in South Lee.

Mrs. Doris LaGrant

Mrs. Doris Hess LaGrant leaves her husband, Howard P. LaGrant and her mother, Mrs. William Hess Koch of Lee. She was a native of Winnipeg, Canada and lived in Stockbridge for the past 18 years. She was a longtime member of the Lee Grange and served as its secretary for many years. She was also a member of the Tuesday Morning Women's Bowling League of Stockbridge.

Mrs. Patricia A. LaGrant

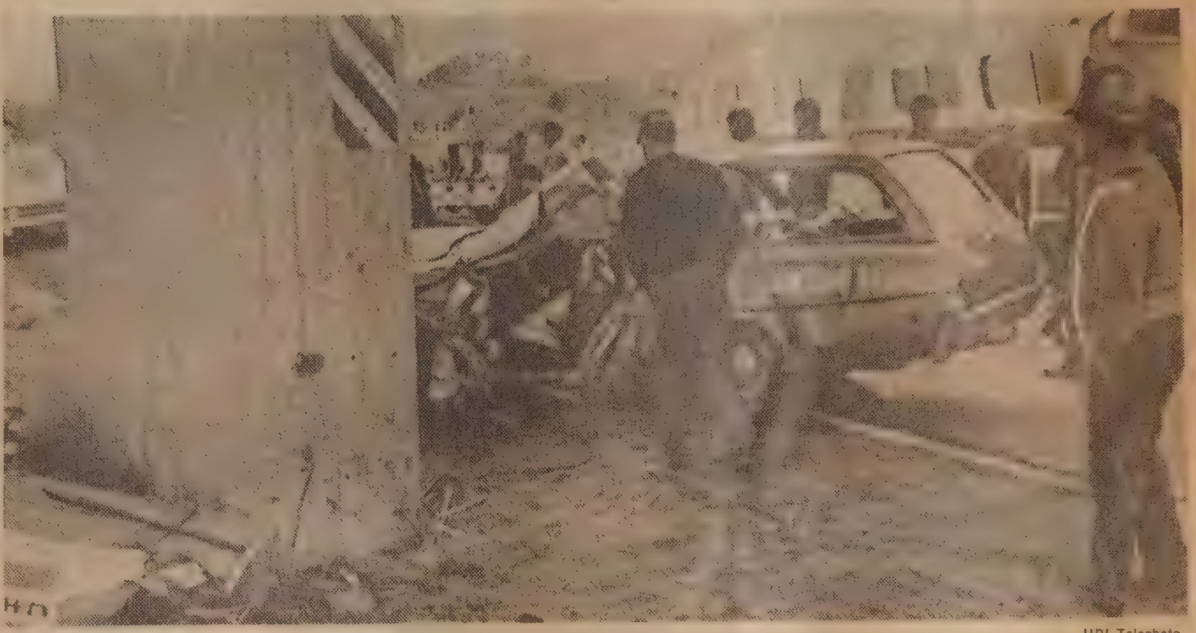
Mrs. Patricia A. Wool LaGrant leaves her husband, Austin, and a daughter, Cheryl at home. She is also survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Wool of Housatonic and a sister, Mrs. Ronald De Mato of Agawam. She was a member of the Lee Grange.

Joint services will be held at St. Paul's Church in Stockbridge Wednesday morning at 11 with the Rev. J. Gollan Root, rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd, officiating.

Burial will be in the Fairmount Cemetery in Lee.

Calling hours at the Kelly Funeral Home in Lee for family and friends of Mrs. Doris LaGrant and Mrs. Patricia LaGrant will be tonight 7 to 9 and tomorrow from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9.

Calling hours at the Kelly Funeral Home for family and friends of Mrs. Wells and Mrs. Manchester will be tomorrow night from 7 to 9.



UPI Telephoto

STATION WAGON in which four county women lost their lives Saturday afternoon rests near bridge abutment which it struck on Maine Turnpike. Police said car went out of control as it was passing a bus, visible at rear.

67

10/21/70

Lee

Baptist Church Plans Reception for Pastor

Rev. Walter E. Douglass

LEE — Berkshire Hills Baptist Church will hold a reception at 7:30 p.m. Friday for its new pastor, the Rev. Walter E. Douglass.

The Rev. Robert Hayden, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Hempstead, N.Y., will be the speaker. Other visiting pastors, representing the Northeast Regular Baptist Fellowship of Churches, will be the Rev. Harold Tallman and the Rev. Lawrence Hilliker.

Members of the church and the public have been invited. Refreshments will be served following the program.

Mr. Douglass, who assumed the pastorate here Sept. 13, is a native of Springfield and a former member of Grace Baptist Church. Receiving his theology degree from Baptist Bible Seminary, Clarks Summit, Pa., he was ordained while serving as associate pastor of the First Baptist Church, Bay City, Mich.

Mr. Douglass then became pastor of the First Baptist Church of Paw Paw, Mich., where he remained eight years. He also has been pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church at Hyannis, and Grace Baptist Church, Highland Falls, N.Y.

His wife, the former Elvera Hayden, also graduated from Baptist Bible Seminary. She is a vocal soloist, pianist and organist. Mrs. Douglass, who has taught piano and is a free-lance writer, is listed in the 1966 edition of "Outstanding Young Women of America."

Mr. and Mrs. Douglass reside in the parsonage on Marble Street with their three chi

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Children's Boutique in Lee sets record for expansions

8/4/73

LEE—Mr. and Mrs. G. John Marchetto, owners of The Children's Boutique shops here and in Great Barrington, have set something of a local record for success in the retail clothing business.

The couple began their business four summers ago with a small shop rented from Helen Rossi on the east side of Main Street. A year later they moved to a bigger location across the street, and in another year opened a shop on Main Street, Great Barrington. And now they have doubled space in the Lee store by renovating a storage room in the rear of the building.

Space blooms as business booms.

The Marchettos will move their Teen and Junior Boutique section into the addition, thus sparing spring shoppers the work of climbing to the second floor, where clothes for teen-agers and young women were previously kept.

Artifacts displayed

A countrified atmosphere has been planned for the rear of the store, and old bottles and scissors found in the walls during renovation will be displayed.

A huge old wagon wheel has been adapted as a clothes rack, doubling as a functional and decorative piece. Red carpeting has been laid throughout the store.

Although the Marchettos began by selling children's clothing exclusively, the teen-age and young adult market has proved lucrative enough to become a permarent part of the business. Their daughters, Julie, 19, Carol, 15, and Gail, 13, do all of the buying for the teen-age inventory, as well as serving as attractive models for their parents' stock.

Bypass favored in Lee; preferably in outskirts

LEE — The Selectmen will ask the state Department of Public Works (DPW) to begin a study to see where a bypass of the center of Lee might be built.

The action was decided last night after the 50 persons present for a bypass hearing voted unanimously in favor of "some kind of bypass."

The decision was labeled a "straw vote" by chairman Martin H. Deely, who said it was taken only to gain a consensus, not as a mandate for the bypass. It was also noted by Robert Duffy, project engineer for the DPW, that a Lee bypass would take from "seven to twelve years—minimum—to build and that's if everything goes well."

Duffy told the Selectmen that, in spite of last night's unanimity, there will be "rough sailing ahead," particularly when people find out the bypass will

In a second vote taken last night, 21 persons favored building a bypass in the outskirts of town and avoiding as many residences as possible; five favored using existing roads, but changing their uses so as to take traffic out of the center of Lee; and no one voted in favor of building a bypass near the center of Lee, and up Laurel Street.

A suggestion that public transportation be used to take people from Lee to Pittsfield, or to recreational areas, was met unfavorably. One man argued that people want more mobility than buses provide. A second man noted that previous attempts at public transportation and commuter service failed because of low interest.

Discussion centered on three outlying routes where a bypass could be built. The first was from the turnpike to Route 20

pass east of East Street and through Lenox Dale, connecting with Route 20 at Housatonic Street in Lenox.

The second possibility would have a road parallel with Church and West Roads, connecting traffic from Route 102 and the turnpike with Route 7 north of Lee.

The third bypass, utilizing existing roads, would shunt traffic off the Lee interchange of the turnpike along Route 102 to Route 7 in Stockbridge, then north to Pittsfield and Lenox.

Other possibilities briefly mentioned included building a turnpike interchange at Route 7 in Stockbridge; widening Church and West Roads and using signs to direct traffic onto them from off Route 102 and the turnpike; and widening East Street to route traffic from the

8/7/73

Lee, Cheshire Churches To Have Same Minister

LEE — The Rev. George T. Warriner, lay pastor of the Cheshire Methodist Church, has

Rev. George T. Warriner

een appointed minister of the ee and Cheshire United Meth-dist churches.

Bishop James T. Matthews iade the appointment June 21 t the annual southern New ngland Conference of the Unit- l Methodist Church held at rown University, Providence, .I.

Grace Methodist Church ir Lenox Dale, long allied with the Lee Methodist Church, is not involved. It is understood the Lenox Dale church is making other arrangements for an officiating clergyman.

Mr. Warriner is now employed as civilian head director of the Industrial division, Naval Plant Representative Office at the General Electric ordnance system in Pittsfield. He will retire from that post Aug. 1 and devote full time to the ministry.

He graduated from East Greenwich (R.I.) Academy, Smith's Agricultural School, Northampton, and attended Boston University.

Mr. Warriner was lay pastor of the Methodist Church in Millville from 1958 until he was assigned to Naval Ordnance in Pittsfield in 1963 and since that time he has been lay pastor to the Cheshire Methodist Church.

In Lee, he will succeed the Rev. Lawrence S. Staples. Mr. Staples left the Lee church to become minister of the Stafford Springs, Conn., Methodist Church, May 20.

Mr. Warriner is married to the former Phyllis Louise Appleby of Pascoag, R.I. The couple have three children.

Church services will be each Sunday through July at 9:30 a.m. at the Cheshire Church and at 11 a.m. at the Lee church.

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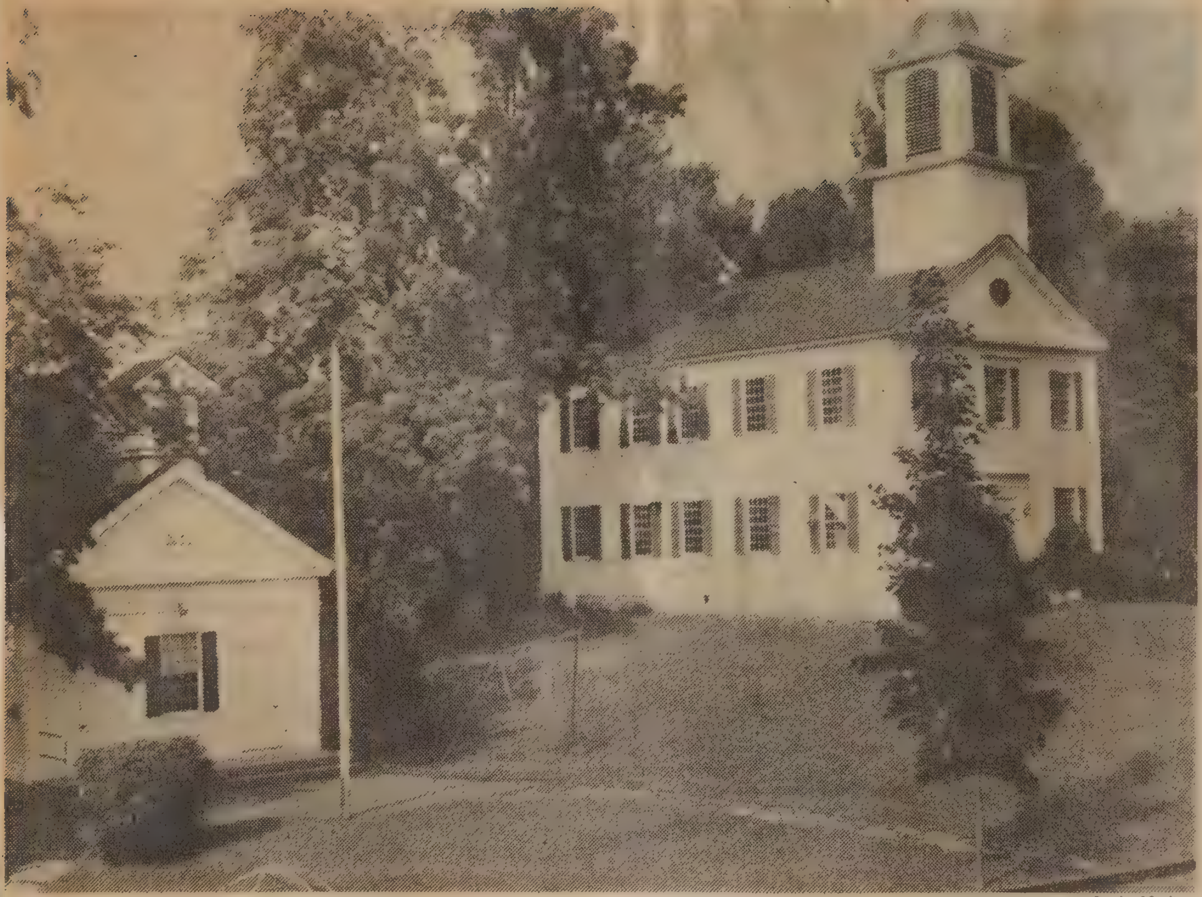


Stanley Moulton

SCHOOL AND CHURCH in Alford would be part of a historic district proposed for the village center. Intent of the historic district would be to preserve the Colonial aspects of the village and the buildings in it. Picture was taken from the Town Hall, which would also be part of the proposed zone.

Historic district proposed in Alford

ALFORD — The Historical Commission has proposed that the village center be zoned as a historic district.

The Selectmen are expected to act Monday on the commission's request to appoint a committee to look into the creation of a historic district.

A preliminary proposal calls for the new zone to cover the buildings and property in the center of Alford, including the Town Hall, church and one-room school.

Creation of the district, which would require a zoning amendment, would encourage the preservation of the village to emphasize its historical features.

Second town

Alford is the second South Berkshire town this summer to propose the historic district designation. Residents of Ashlev Falls, a village in Sheffield, also have proposed the special zoning, and are being helped by the Berkshire County Regional Planning Commission (BCRPC).

George Minkoff, president of the Historical Commission, said yesterday that he expects to consult with Gaylord I. Burke, assistant planning director of BCRPC.

The center of Alford is patterned after a Colonial New England village, with its major buildings clustered around the main street. The Town Hall, school and church are of Colonial design.

There are no businesses in the center.

Creation of a historic district would prevent "incongruous land uses" and would limit new structures to those which are "in keeping with the existing buildings," Burke has explained.

Businesses would not be prohibited outright: A special committee would be formed to consider all new construction in the zone.

The first step is the appointment of a historic district study committee, which would draft a specific proposal and recommend the exact geographic boundaries of the zone.

According to Selectmen Chairman Gustav J. Berkel, the proposal should be ready for consideration at a special town meeting early next year.

There are currently no historic districts in Berkshire County.

Reason should rule

To the Editor of THE EAGLE:—

Although I do own several firearms, including a handgun, I do not consider myself an avid hunter or sportsman. I hunt on occasion, but most of the ammunition I fire is at targets.

Because I use firearms, I oppose bill S 612. However, there is more to it than being for or against. Emotion should be left out of one's decision and reason should be the prime factor.

This is true in all aspects of life, not just firearms. Take, for example, automobiles, snowmobiles, aircraft, boats or anything which requires responsible operation or use. Laws govern the use of everything used by a large number of people, and so it should be because all people of a given group are not as responsible as they should be.

What could be more dangerous than a drunken driver at the wheel of a 4,000-pound automobile traveling 90 miles per hour? But when people break motor-vehicle law, the answer is not to take the cars away.

We must ask ourselves: Can we entrust the use of firearms to the average person in this country? If the answer is no, then our country is in real trouble. If taking away a right is the answer to solving a problem, we had better board up the windows and prepare ourselves for a permanent shutdown.

The responsible attitude of people is the ultimate answer.

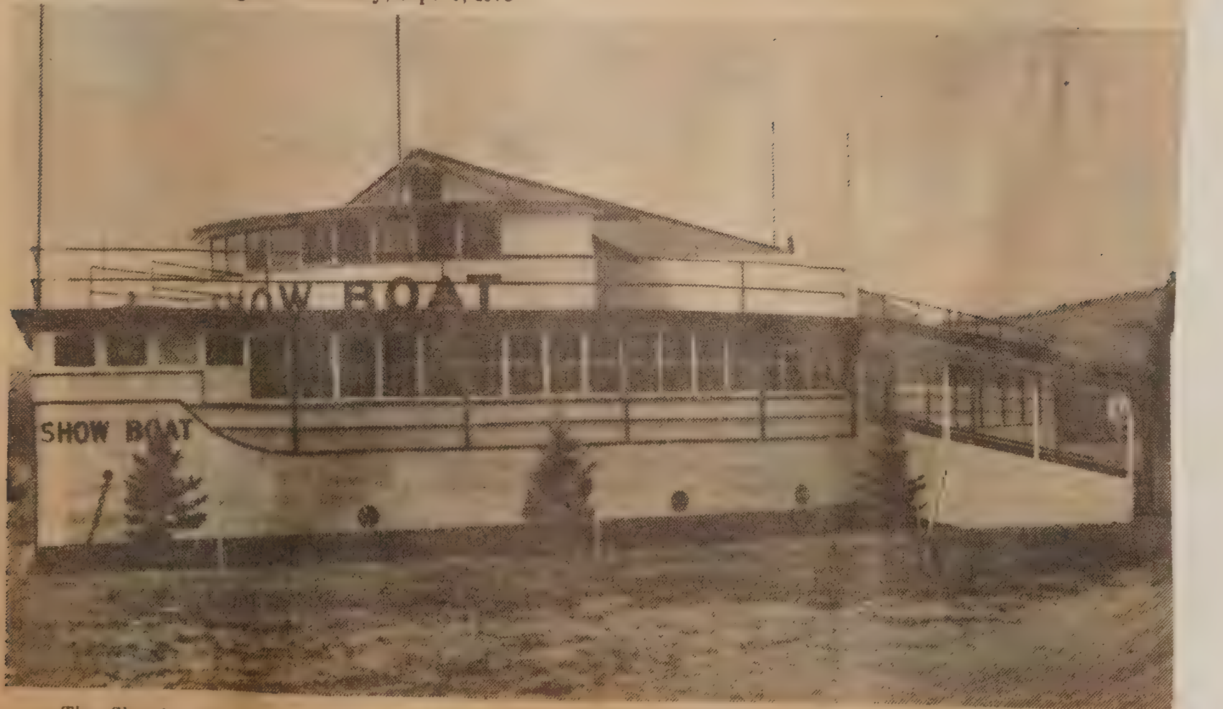
PETER S. SIMMONS

Tyringham Road
Lee

3/4/72

Additional letters are printed on the page opposite.—Ed.

24—The Berkshire Eagle, Wednesday, Sept. 3, 1975



The Showboat restaurant in New Lebanon, N.Y., destroyed by fire on Friday, as it appeared about 1950.

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Women's apparel shop takes center space

By Lawrence Burns

LEE — Kimber-Lee is not, as the name suggests, a wholesale outlet for Kleenex and other Kimberly-Clark products. It is a women's clothing store in the new addition of the Park Street shopping center.

The store's owner and manager, Mrs. Carole Terlik of 41 Theresa Ter., said the business is her first experience in retailing. The store was named after her daughter Kimberly and has nothing to do with the town's paper mills. "We were looking for a catchy name and we finally decided that "Kimber-Lee" was perfect — it's short and, well, the shop is in Lee."

And it seems that a good part of town — the female part — was in Kimber-Lee when it opened Wednesday. There was a line all day at the cash register as shoppers sought opening-day bargains—blouses for $3 and sweaters from $3 to $7.

Lawrence Burns

INITIAL VENTURE into the field of retail sales for Mrs. Carole Terlik will be the Kimber-Lee shop in Lee. Mrs. Terlik utilized open space in designing the store's interior. The shop was named after Mr. and Mrs. Walter Terlik's daughter Kimberly with the name of the town incorporated in the store name. A steady line greeted the owner on opening day.

Open space used

Open space is utilized so a shopper doesn't feel as if she's picking raspberries when she takes an article of clothing off a rack. Most of the clothing is for the fall or will be, within a week, Mrs. Terlik promises. Because the store has just opened, not all the inventory has arrived.

Sizes will range from 5 juniors to lower 20 half-sizes, and there will be a full line of missy clothes. Most of the blouses, sweaters, slacks, dresses and coats will sell from $18 to $30, she promises, though a few items — such as handmade capes — will sell for more. She buys directly from the manufacturers, thus holding prices down.

She added that if the handmade apparel sells well, it may become a feature of the store.

Formerly Carole Kozub, Mrs. Terlik and her husband, Walter, moved here four years ago from Chicopee Falls so that Mr. Terlik could work for the Peter J. Schweitzer Division of Kimberly-Clark. It is ironic that almost a year after the mills laid him off (along with more than 80 others), the Terliks should make their store a namesake of the mills.

Early start

Actually, Mrs. Terlik said, the idea for the store occurred to them while her husband was unemployed. Though he later went to work at GE in Pittsfield, as an engineer, plans for the store had gotten enough momentum to make it worth following through.

The store will be open Monday through Saturday from 9 to 5:30, and Friday night until 9.

Brunell named tax collector

8/16/73

LEE — C. Marcel Brunell has been appointed tax collector to succeed Howard A. Fenwick, who will resign as of Sept. 1.

The Selectmen made the announcement last night after the special town meeting. Chairman Martin H. Deely said the vote naming Brunell to the post was 2-1. The chairman said one of the Selectmen had favored another of the 11 candidates for the office, but the contender's name was not released.

Brunell's appointment will be for nine months. If he wishes to remain in the office, he will have to run for the position in the spring elections of next year to fill the remainder of Fenwick's term, which would have expired in 1975.

Brunell, 59, is on the School Committee and is employed on a part-time basis for the Lawrence V. Toole Insurance & Real Estate Agency of Lee. He has served one term as a Selectman and on the Planning Board, seven years on the School Committee and 15 years on the School Building Commission. He is married and lives at 404 East St.

The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, Aug. 22, 1972—23

Nejaime discloses intent to buy Lee Ford building for food market

LEE — Nabih Nejaime of Stockbridge is negotiating for the purchase of the Lee Ford showroom on Housatonic Street for use as a food market, he said last night.

Nejaime unveiled plans to the Planning Board for conversion of the building. He said that although he has not yet purchased the showroom, there has been an agreement of sale and the deal should be consummated by Sept. 1.

He outlined the plan for renovation, including replacement of the large glass panels at the north and south ends of the building with wood panels. He said further that there would be an 84-by-13-foot extension to the rear which would be used for storage and to house the coolers.

Nejaime said the market would cut meat to customers' specifications.

Planning Board Chairman Francis D. Foley Jr. told him that it is the board's policy to take under advisement for at least two weeks any major alteration in construction or type of business such as that which Nejaime has proposed.

Nejaime responded by saying that he would like to get under way with the addition and renovations as soon as possible. Foley said the board may try to act on his petition by next week.

Foley said one of the principal concerns would be traffic flow to and from the showrroom, which lies just across the road from the Friendly Ice Cream store.

Nejaime told the board that there is parking space for more than 100 cars there.

The proposed business is to be known as Nejaime's Lee Market. There are approximately 6,000 square feet of space in the showroom.

Alio Delmolino, who with his brother, Aldo S. Delmolino, and Milton North is a principal in Lee Ford, said the company would continue selling new cars at its other location south of the showroom near the Massachusetts Turnpike interchange.

He said Lee Ford purchased the showroom property about two years ago from Marcel Burnell, who had operated a dry-cleaning and laundry establishment there for a number of years.

Before coming to Lee about 10 years ago, Delmolino said, he operated Troy's Garage in West Stockbridge.

Nejaime, 38, is the owner and operator of Nejaime's Stockbridge Shop, a food market. Two years ago he purchased the Wine Cellar, a package store on Elm Street, Stockbridge.

He said he will continue both of his Stockbridge operations.

The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, Feb. 12, 1974— 17

ENGINE
4
LEE FI

LEE'S NEW RED FIRE TRUCK was tested, washed and waxed by volunteer firemen over the weekend. Fire Chief Ottavio B. Giarolo, shown above in white, and his men drove the 1,000-gallon per-minute pumper to Laurel Lake Saturday morning to try it out, and reported that it worked "beautifully." Other firemen are, from left, Ray Buffoni, Bob Giarolo, Bob Brunell and Byron Gangell.

2/6/74

Lee's new fire truck to be old-fashioned red

LEE — Lee will get a new fire truck Friday and it won't be lime green.

Martin H. Deely, chairman of the Selectmen, said Monday night that despite new federal safety recommendations that the color of fire trucks be changed from red to lime green, Lee's trucks would stay red.

The new color was proposed for fire trucks, Deely said, because its iridescence is supposed to make the trucks more visible at night.

The new truck, a 1,000-gallon-per-minute Maxim pumper that will cost the town $42,476, will replace a 20-year-old, 500-gallon-per-minute pumper stationed in South Lee, which will be traded in. The new Maxim will go to the station on Main Street; an older truck from there will go to South Lee.

Fire Chief Ottavio B. Giarolo said that the truck will be delivered Friday noon and that Maxim representatives will come with it to teach Lee firemen how to use it. Training sessions will be held Friday and Saturday.

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ENGINE
4
LEE FIRE DEPT.

Ralph E. Brow

LEE'S NEW RED FIRE TRUCK was tested, washed and waxed by volunteer firemen over the weekend. Fire Chief Ottavio B. Giarolo, shown above in white, and his men drove the 1,000-gallon per-minute pumper to Laurel Lake Saturday morning to try it out, and reported that it worked "beautifully." Other firemen are, from left, Ray Buffoni, Bob Giarolo, Bob Brunell and Byron Gangell.

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for dwelling purposes on a single building lot in a subdivision.

Thus under the present bylaws the original plan would not be possible unless approved by the Board of Appeals.

New bylaws would allow

However, in his remarks last night Stafford said the planned updating of the bylaws, subject to ratification at the special town meeting, will include provisions for cluster-type housing in certain areas.

He said, "if someone woul communicate this to the devel

3,100 Attend Consecration Of New Episcopal Bishop

SPRINGFIELD — A total of 3.100 persons, including representatives of three major faiths, crowded into the Municipal Auditorium Saturday for the consecration of the Rt. Rev. Alexander D. Stewart as fifth bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Western Massachusetts.

Twelve Episcopal bishops, led by the Rt. Rev. John E. Hines, presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church in the United States, laid their right hands on the head of the new bishop at the climax of the ancient ceremony.

In Sanctuary

Seated in the sanctuary were the Most Rev. Christopher J. Weldon, bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Springfield; the Most Rev. Bernard J. Flanagan, bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Worcester; the Most Rev. Timothy J. Harrington, auxiliary bishop of Worcester; the Rev. W. Emerson Smith, representing the Greater Springfield Council of Churches, and Rabbi Bernard M. Cohen of Sinai Temple.

Four choirs sang, including the choir of St. Stephen's Church, Pittsfield.

Gov. Francis W. Sargent was among those present.

All the congregation was invited to receive Holy Communion.

Bishop Alexander D. Stewart

Mr. Smith hailed the invitation as an advance in ecumenism in Western Massachusetts.

Bishop Stewart, 44, will be spiritual leader of some 30,000 Episcopalians in his diocese. He was previously rector of St. Mark's Church in East Providence, R.I. He succeeds Bishop Robert M. Hatch, who is retiring.

9-21-70

Eagle 1-20-1971

Christian Unity Service Set Sunday at St. George's

LEE — The Week of Prayer for Christial Unity will be celebrated Sunday at 7:30 p.m. at St. George's Episcopal Church.

Theme of the service will be "The Fellowship of the Spirit." Participating churches will include Grace Methodist Church, Lenox Dale, the Church of the Good Shepherd, South Lee, St. Mary's Church, Lee United Methodist Church and the First Congregational Church.

The Rev. Sean Horgan, assistant at St. Mary's Church, will preach. The Rev. J. Gollan Root, rector of St. George's Church, will be host.

Richard Charron will be organist and Mrs. Donald Abbott choir director.

Laymen participating in the service will be Frank Kelly of St. Mary's, Clyde Gleason of Lee United Methodist, Marcus Ferrelli of the First Congregational and Richard Davis of St. George's

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Eagle Oct. 22, 1973

Lee's Episcopal rector, Father Root, transferring to Springfield cathedral

LEE —The Rev. J. Gollan Root will leave as rector of St. George's Church, and as vicar of the Church of the Good Shepherd, South Lee, at the end of November to join the Christ Church Cathedral, Springfield.

He told his Lee and South Lee congregations last week that he has accepted a call to be an associate to the Very Rev. Malcolm W. Eckel, dean of the cathedral.

Since 1970

Father Root has served the local churches since January of 1970. He has been a member of the Council on Aging and the board of directors of the Rotary Club. He also is on the Communications Commission for the diocese of Western Massachusetts.

A graduate of Cornell University and the Virginia Seminary, the Pittsfield native was formerly a curate at St. John's Church, Northampton, and served as teaching chaplain to three high schools in Tororo, Uganda, East Africa.

Father Root is married to the former Sue Bucheit, also a seminary graduate and a member of the diocesan Commission for the Ministry. They have two children, Ann, 6, and Stephen, 2.

To choose successor

The lay leaders of the Lee parish have not yet named Father Root's successor. The Select Calling Committee may submit a name to the Rt. Rev. Alexander D. Stewart, bishop of Western Massachusetts, or may accept the name of a successor recommended by the bishop.

9.25

Former Rector Now in Vermont

LEE — The Rev. Leslie T. Francis Jr., former rector of St. George's Church here, assumed duties as rector of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd at Barre, Vt., Sept. 1.

Father Francis served as rector of St. George's for 10 years and also was vicar of the Church of the Good Shepherd in South Lee. Since October 1969, he had been on a special assignment from Bishop Robert M. Hatch, bishop until this month of the Western Massachusetts Episcopal diocese, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, West Springfield.

A native of North Adams, Father Francis was ordained to the priesthood in December 1957. After completing seminary, he was curate at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Concord, N.H., from 1957 to 1959, when he went to Lee.

He is married to the former Dorothea Grace Carmichael of Williamstown. The couple have three children.

9-26-70

1-24

250 Attend Ecumenical Service

LEE — An estimated 250 persons attended the Christian Unity Service held at St. George's Episcopal Church on Sunday.

The Rev. J. Gollan Root, rector of St. George's, said the pews were full and folding chairs were brought out for about 25 persons.

The service culminated the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The theme of the service was "The Fellowship of the Service."

Participating churches were the Grace Methodist Church, the Church of the Good Shepherd, St. Mary's Church, Lee United Methodist Church and the First Congregational Church.

2-4-75 Eagle

St. George's passes budget of $19,752

LEE — The annual meeting of St. George's Episcopal Church passed a budget for 1975 of $19,752.

Elected to three-year terms on the church's vestry were Tom Simmons and Philip Townsend. Barbara Freeman and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Errington were named convention delegates; Mr. and Mrs. Leon Pecon, alternate convention delegates.

Delegates elected to the South Berkshire Deanery were: Simmons, Mrs. Freeman and Mrs. Errington. Alternates to the chapter were. Mrs. Pecon, Ruth Blake and Herbert Sloan.

Betty Dennis was re-elected clerk of the parish. Nils Guttormsen was re-elected treasurer.

[illegible] 2-3-75

Church Announced Appointments

LEE — St. George's Episcopal Church announced the elections and appointments held at its annual meeting Monday night. New delegates to the annual Diocesan Convention in Springfield will be Mrs. Robert Freeman and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Errington. Alternate delegates will be Mr. and Mrs. Leon Pecon and Mrs. George Simmons.

Delegates to the monthly South Berkshire Deaconry are Thomas Simmons, Mrs. Robert Freeman and Mrs. Roger Errington. Alternate delegates are Mrs. Leon Pecon, Herbert Sloan, and Mrs. Ruth Blake.

Two new vestrymen are Thomas Simmons and Philip Townsend. Nils Guttormsen was reelected treasurer, and Betty Dennis was reappointed clerk.

Eagle Mar. 1, 1974

In Lee

Mr. Freeman assumes rector post today

Rev. Robert Freeman

LEE — The Rev. Robert A. Freeman, a former English teacher at Mt. Hermon - Northfield Schools, will become the new rector of St. George's Episcopal Church here today.

Mr. Freeman, who as rector of St. George's also becomes vicar of the Church of the Good Shepherd in South Lee, succeeds the Rev. J. Gollan Root, who left for Christ Church Cathedral in Springfield Dec. 1.

Members of both local churches have planned a welcoming reception for Mr. Freeman at St. George's Parish House Sunday afternoon from 3 until 5 and are inviting all Lee area residents to attend.

The new rector comes from Newport, Vt., where he was rector of St. Mark's Church for three years. He had been diocesan vicar at St. James Church in Greenfield for a year and a half before moving to Vermont.

Born in Lynne, Mr. Freeman was graduated from Brown University in Rhode Island in 1957 with a bachelor of arts degree in English literature. He taught high school English at Dennis - Yarmouth Regional High School, Peters High School in Southboro and Mt. Hermon - Northfield School in Northfield, and received a master's degree in education from Bridgewater State College in 1963.

He received a bachelor of divinity degree from Episcopal Theological Seminary in Cambridge in 1969.

Mr. Freeman and his wife, the former Barbara Edes of Greenfield, will live at the St. George's rectory next to the church on Franklin Street.

While they last, Polaroid SX70 land film for new Polaroid cameras $3.00 per pack. McClelland Drug. Lee.—Adv.

Hallmark St. Patrick's Day cards, party accessories. Lee News.—Adv.

STOREWIDE
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THE BERKSHIRE HERALD — MARCH 6, 1974

John Waring

BIG AND FRIENDLY — The Rev. Robert A. Freeman, seen here with his three pet dogs, is the new minister of St. George's Church in Lee and the vicar of the Church of the Good Shepherd in South Lee. By name his pets are Tuffy, who seems to be recovering from the rigors of moving; Brindle, who is nine months and 125 pounds; and Sebastian, who tips the scales at 185 pounds. (Story on Page 7.)

NEW LEE RECTOR WELCOMED BY TWO CHURCHES AT RECEPTION

LEE — The Rev. Robert A. Freeman, the new rector of St. George's Church here and vicar of the Church of the Good Shepherd in South Lee, was welcomed by members of both churches last Sunday at a reception in the Parish House.

Mr. Freeman has succeeded The Rev. J. Gollan Root, who left the local parish in December to accept a post at Christ Church Cathedral in Springfield.

Mr. Freeman, a former English teacher who entered the ministry in 1969, has been the rector of St. Mark's Church in Newport, Vt., for the past three years. Before that, he was a diocesan curate at St. Jame's Church in Greenfield. Mr. Freeman received a Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1969 at Episcopal Theological School in Cambridge.

Before entering the ministry, Mr. Freeman taught English for two years at the Mt. Hermon School in Gill, for five years at Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School on the Cape, and for one year at Peters High School in Southboro. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Brown University and a Master's degree in education from Bridgewater State College.

Mr. Freeman and his wife, Barbara, moved into the rectory on Franklin Street last week. Commenting on his arrival here, the new rector said, "I have never been received more warmly, by the parishioners and the community at large, than I have been received by the people of Lee."

76

Lee Savings buys parcel for $95,000

LEE — The Lee Savings Bank yesterday purchased 145 acres off Stockbridge Road for investment and possible development purposes. Cost of the transaction was $95,000, about $655 an acre.

Richard E. Sitzer, bank president, said this morning that the land was purchased by Westpar Corp., a wholly owned subsidiary of the bank and investment company. It was acquired from Gordon Houldsworth of Richmond, contractor; Samuel Landa, city solicitor of Pittsfield, and Morris Landa of Pittsfield, an accountant.

The land is mostly meadow on the south side of Stockbridge Road between the Massachusetts Turnpike bridge and Church Street and has approximately 1,000 feet of road frontage. The parcel is served by town water, but not by sewers. It lies on a slight knoll with views of the Tyringham valley and the Beartown Mountain range.

Sitzer said the bank bought the property because it is a "desirable piece for development of single-family home sites" and for investment. He said also that the purchase took the parcel out of the hands of outside developers.

Sitzer added, however, that the bank has no immediate plans for development.

2/5/76 Eagle

Lee Savings Bank gets state's OK for Stockbridge branch

LEE — Lee Savings Bank has won state approval to open a branch — its first — in Stockbridge.

Richard E. Sitzer, bank president, said yesterday that Massachusetts Commissioner of Banking Freyda P. Koplow gave her approval of the move Thursday, following a public hearing in Boston Jan. 7.

Sitzer said that although architects' plans have yet to be completed, he expects the branch to open by midsummer.

Some 600 Stockbridge residents already have Lee Savings accounts, Sitzer said; those deposits total approximately $2.8 million. The bank has also loaned approximately $3 million in Stockbridge.

Near Riggs center

The new office, a 1,100-square foot, brick Colonial structure, will be built near the Austin Riggs Center on the north side of Main Street, on land leased from Ernest Hall, owner of Hall Auto Service.

It will have parking for customers and its three employes, and will feature a single-station drive-up window. Sitzer said the building and its equipment will cost "somewhere in the neighborhood of $75,000 to $90,000."

Bank officials have not yet met with Stockbridge Planning Board members, but expect to do so as soon as architects' plans are completed, Sitzer said.

The branch will be Stockbridge's first savings bank. The only other bank in town is Berkshire Bank & Trust, a commercial bank, which took over the former Housatonic National Bank of Stockbridge.

#77

[illegible] 24 '78

Obituaries and Fu

Patsy Zaccaria of Lee, was supermarket owner

LEE — Patsy Zaccaria, 64, of Fairview St., who was part owner of the former Lee Supermarket, which operated stores here and in Pittsfield, died Saturday at his home after a short illness.

He and James and Joseph Bianco acquired the former Rams Market on Main Street here in 1946, in the space now occupied by Johannson's Store, and renamed it the Lee Supermarket. They also opened a branch on Tyler Street in Pittsfield. They later acquired the former Lee Savings Bank and Park Garage property off Main Street and a home on West Park Street and built a new market and large parking lot on the site. Mr. Zaccaria and his associates sold the business last year to an Albany-based chain which now runs it under the name of Price-Chopper.

A native of Italy, Mr. Zaccaria came to the United States when he was 8 years old.

He was the president for two years of the Berkshire County Grocers Association and was a member of the Massachusetts Grocers' Association.

He was a member and past president of the Lee Kiwanis Club and a member of the Lee Planning Board at the time zoning was adopted in 1955.

He was a frequent speaker at Lee Town meetings.

He was president of the Lee Little League for 10 years and was a member and former president of the Cadet Athletic Club of Waterbury, Conn.

He leaves his wife, the former Dorothy Daury; four daughters, Mrs. Jose Torres of Athens, Ohio, Mrs. George S. VanOrman of Camden, N.Y., Miss Judith Zaccaria at home, and Mrs. Donald Vaughan of Riverview, Mich.; a sister, Mrs. Walter Yashenko of Oakville, Conn.; three stepsisters, Mrs. Charles Onalfo, Mrs. Chester Milia and Mrs. Edmund Matulis, all of Waterbury, Conn.; and two stepbrothers, Biaggio Messina and Vincent Messina, both of Waterbury, Conn. and 10 grandchildren.

The funeral will be Wednesday at 10 at St. Mary's Church. Burial will follow in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Calling hours at Kelly Funeral Home will be today and tomorrow from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9.

Donations may be made to the Lee Little League in Mr. Zaccaria's memory.

Mrs. Elizabeth Lester

LEE — Mrs. Elizabeth Watson Lester of Fairview Street died yesterday at Pittsfield General unit, BMC, after a short illness. She was 81.

Born in Downpatrick, County Down, Northern Ireland, she came to this country in 1921. She lived in Bronxville, N.Y. until 1971, when she moved to Lee. The widow of John C. Lester, who died in 1952, she was a communicant of St. George's Episcopal Church.

She leaves a son, Robert W. Lester of Lee; two sisters, Miss Caroline Watson and Mrs. John Montgomery, both of Groomsport, County Down, and two granddaughters.

Funeral services will be held Saturday morning at a time to be determined at the Pelham (N.Y.) Funeral Home. Burial will be in Kensico Cemetery, Valhalla, N.Y. Calling hours at the funeral home will be tomorrow from 2 to 4 and from 7 to 9. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. George's Episcopal Church in Lee.

Janet Longcope, 88, master bookbinder, of Lee

1/3/74

Mrs. Janet Longcope

LEE — Mrs. Janet Percy Dana Longcope, a master bookbinder, photographer, world traveler, and member of the board of managers of the Lenox Library Association for 25 years, died here Saturday at her home, Cornhill Farm, on Stockbridge Road. She was 88.

She was the widow of Dr. Warfield T. Longcope, who in 1946 retired as professor of medicine at Johns Hopkins Medical School, Baltimore, Md., and physician - in - chief of Johns Hopkins Hospital. Summer residents here for many years, she and her husband moved here permanently following his retirement. He died in 1953 at the age of 76.

Born in New York, Mrs. Longcope was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dana and the granddaughter of Charles A. Dana, publisher of the New York Sun. She was educated at the Brearley School in New York.

She served as a nurse with the French Army during World War I, and first studied bookbinding in Paris. She worked for many years with bookbinder Arno Werner of Pittsfield, and took lessons in the craft in Baltimore. She became a member of the National Guild of Bookbinders, which granted her the title of master bookbinder.

She operated the Cornhill Bindery from a workshop at her home, and bound volumes for friends on a commission basis. She bound a facsimile of the first folio of William Shakespeare for the Lenox Library, and exhibited many of her bound volumes there.

She became a member of the library's book committee in 1947, served as chairman of the committee until 1967, and continued to serve as a member until her death. She was named to the library's board of managers in 1949, and served in that capacity until she resigned from the board in 1972.

She was also a member of the Lee Library Association, served on its house committee, and one year organized an arts and crafts display at the library.

She traveled widely throughout Africa, the Himalayas and Southeast Asia, and photographed many of the places she visited. She frequently gave illustrated lectures of her travels. The Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., has accepted a collection of 15 volumes of her photographs of Asia. She had bound the volumes herself.

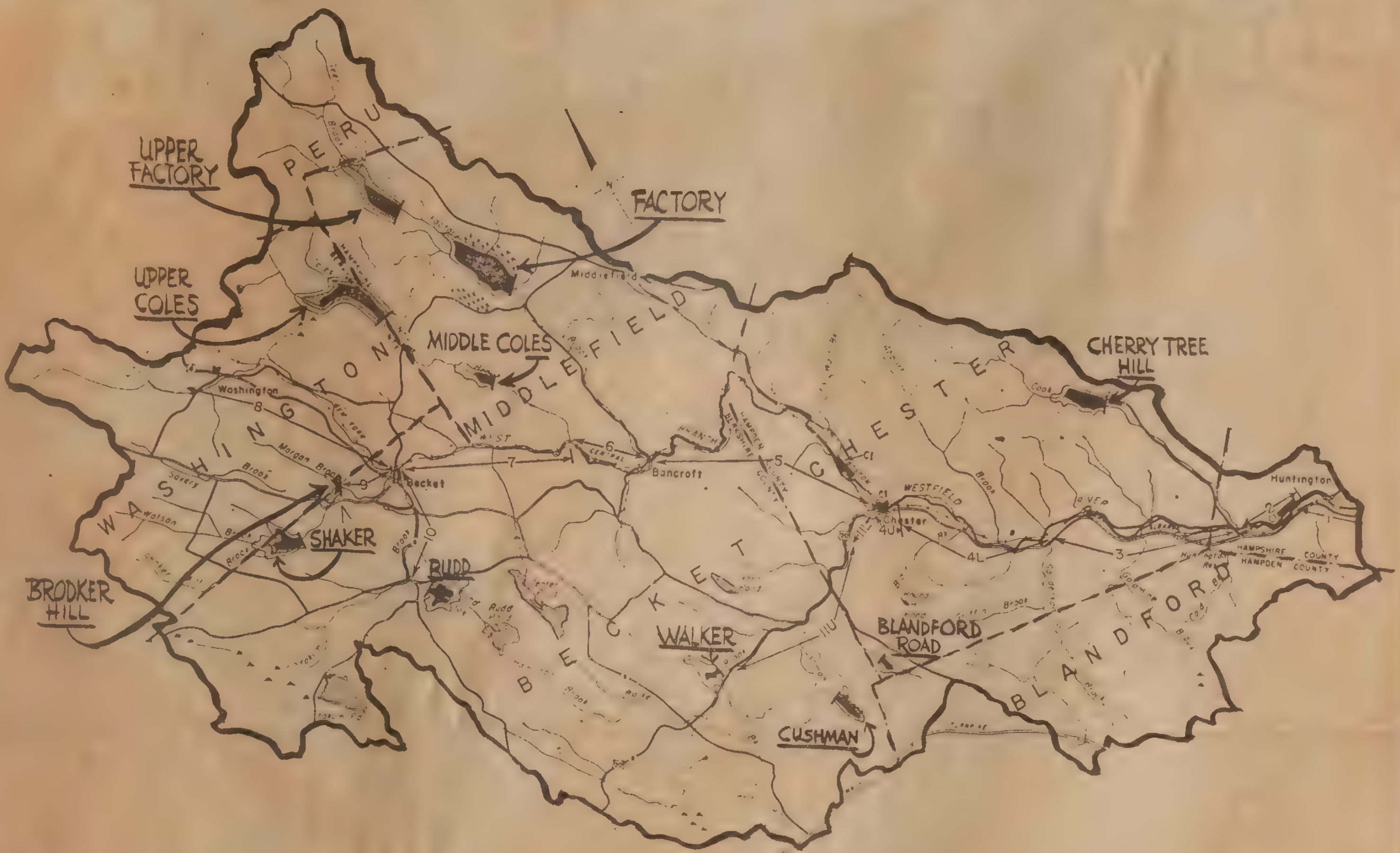
In 1963, she donated 45 acres of her land on Church Street to the town for recreational use. The town maintains it as a town forest.

Mrs. Longcope leaves two daughters, Mrs. Fenwick Keyser of Reisterstown, Md., and Mrs. Mary Lee Johansen of New York; two sons, Duncan of Boston and Dr. Christopher Longcope of Northboro; eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held tomorrow at noon at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Stockbridge. Burial will be held privately. In lieu of flowers, the family has suggested contributions to the Lenox Library Association.

[illegible]/69

Plans Outlined for Flood Control in 7 Hilltowns



Watershed of West Branch of Westfield River covers five towns. Names of ponds in proposed flood project are underlined. Dams at Brodker Hill and Blandford Road, however, will not make permanent pools, but will serve as buffers. Construction will be one to two years off.

Eleven Dams To Be Built, Nine With Pools

By GERALD B. O'CONNOR

The flood control and recreation project on the west branch of the Westfield River is the first in the Northeast to include plans for boosting river flow during dry periods, area representatives were told Thursday.

The estimated cost of the project, which will extend into Berkshire County, is $6 million, to be paid by state and federal governments.

State and federal natural resources officials reviewed plans for the project at a meeting of representatives from the seven towns in the project area at the Huntington Town Hall.

7 years To Complete

In emphasizing the inclusion of plans for dry-period flows, Karl Klingelhofer, state engineer for the federal Soil Conservation Service (SCS) said the timetable for the over-all project is still only approximate and that, once begun, it will probably take seven years to complete.

He said the present work plan will be put into final draft form by July for submission to federal agencies in Washington, D.C. late in the summer or at the end of the year. In the meantime, copies of the plan will be sent to state agencies and to the project sponsors for comments, which will be incorporated into the draft.

A field meeting at which sponsors, state officials and interested townspeople will tour some or all of the flood control sites will be the last act before the plan is submitted in final form to Congress.

Curtail Spending

William Warren, Berkshire area supervisor for SCS, said the planning stage will probably extend into 1970. In addition, he said, the federal government is proposing that, nationwide, no more than 25 of the flood-control projects like the one planned on the Westfield, be started in any given year.

The object is to curtail spending, Warren said, and it will probably slow down the pace of construction.

The project, being planned under Public Law 566, calls for 11 dams to be built in a seven-town area in Berkshire, Hampden and Hampshire counties. Three of the towns, Becket, Washington and Peru, are in Berkshire.

Two of the dams will be single-purpose structures for flood control. They will not create permanent pools of water.

The other nine will back up permanent pools for combined flood control, recreational and wildlife protection use, and three of these will be designed so that they hold back enough water to be released downstream in dry periods or drought. The principle of boosting stream flow is called low-flow augmentation.

Unique Feature

It is this that was described as a unique feature of the project in relation to similar projects in the Northeast.

"The Westfield has tremendous fluctuation," said Warren, "and it causes problems for fish and for diffusion of wastes that are emptied into it."

He said the intent is to maintain the branch flow at approximately 50 cubic feet a second in dry times. The flow now drops to as little as 15 cubic feet a second.

When dam construction begins, the recreational structures will be built first, starting with four dams planned in the Middlefield-Washington-Peru area. One of these, on lower Factory Brook, is to be the principal recreational lake, where swimming and boating will be possible. The others may be limited to fishing.

To Acquire 2,000 Acres

The lower Factory Brook dam will be in Middlefield, as will the upper Factory Brook dam, although the pool will extend over the town line into Peru. The dam for the upper Coles Brook pool will lie on the border between Middlefield and Washington. The fourth dam, on Middle Coles Brook, will be in Middlefield.

The state Water Resources Commission, which in all Public Law 566 projects is the land-buying agency, tentatively plans to acquire some 2,000 acres surrounding the four sites. But, said a spokesman, the plan is subject to change.

Four of the dams, on Shaker Mill, Rudd Pond, Walker and Cushman brooks, will be in Becket, and a fifth, on Morgan Brook will be on the Becket-Washington town line.

Other dams will be in Chester and Blandford. Channel improvement is planned in Huntington.

The sponsors are the Berkshire, Hampden and Hampshire conservation districts and the State Department of Natural Resources.

Among Berkshire men at the meeting Thursday were William H. Meyer of Sheffield and Henry Jaeschke of Adams, supervisors of the Berkshire Conservation District; Douglas G. Poland of Washington, acting regional supervisor in Berkshire for the state Division of Forests and Parks; Berkshire County engineer William A. Heaphy, and staff members Robert Saulnier and Eugene Galvani.

79

20— The Berkshire Eagle, Thursday, Aug. 16, 1973

Lee voters shelve model plane dispute

LEE — The controversial article to designate a field off Maple Street as a playground and to permit model-airplane flying was killed without a vote at last night's special town meeting.

Also passed over was the so-called "excavation" article which would have placed most digging, excavation and earth-moving projects under municipal control.

The main article on the 13-article warrant — the Planning Board's new zoning proposal — met defeat. (See story on Page 1, Sect. 2).

The results of the remaining articles were as follows:

—Article 3: To take an easement on the Lena N. Pease property for the ongoing sewer project; passed.

—Article 4: To take an easement on property owned by Arthur H. Bartsch and Harvey J. and Janet E. Cook for the sewer project; passed.

—Article 5: To transfer $53,804 from the Board of Health budget to the town Department of Public Works, which will take over control of the town's sanitary landfill site; passed.

—Article 6: To spend $3,512 on a walk-in freezer, refrigerator and waste compactor for a grade school lunch program; passed.

—Article 7: To accept a license from Louis J. Delugan and Mary Tognalli to allow the town to operate a waste recycling shed at the corner of Eaton and Railroad streets; passed.

—Article 8: To appropriate $1,900 to hire insurance appraisers to revalue the town's property; defeated.

—Article 9: To transfer $29,740 from Marble Street sewer funds for similar construction on Summer Street between Spring Street and Lexia School Road; passed.

—Article 10: To authorize a standing committee of town representatives to report on articles submitted by the Board of Health and the DPW for town meeting warrants; defeated.

—Article 11: To set up a standing committee of town representatives to report on the Selectmen; defeated.

—Article 12: To set up a standing committee of town representatives to report on the School Committee; no action.

The article to approve model-airplane flying off Maple Street, was not brought up for vote on a motion by Selectman John J. Wheeler. He said after the meeting that his motion was made unilaterally and had not been discussed by the board.

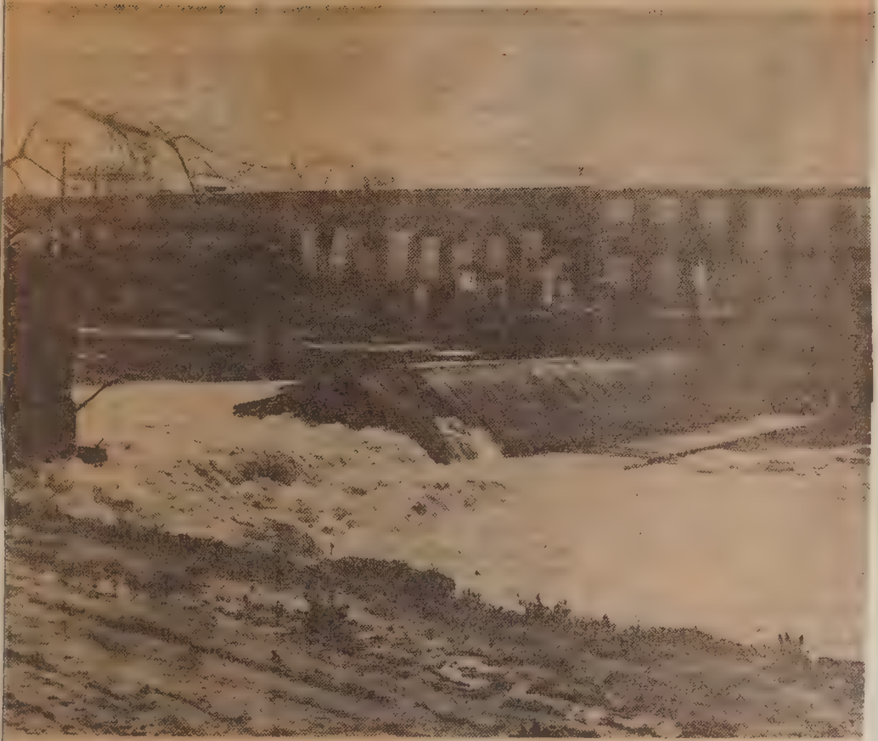
The motion to pass over the excavation article was made by James Nolan

The article to spend $1,900 on a revaluation of town property was defeated after Assessor Chairman John E. Loring said his board would undertake the study at no cost to the town.

Lawrence Burns

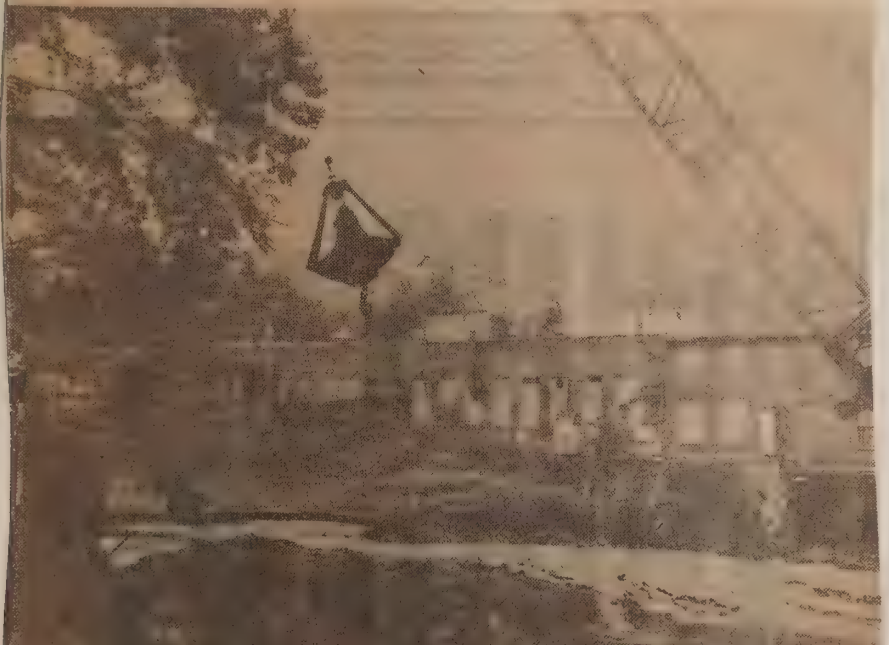
LEE PLANNING BOARD member Jon Larson, left, attempted at last night's special town meeting to explain how the new zoning would regulate growth of apartments. Next to him is board chairman Francis D. Foley Jr.

Eagle July 22, 1969



John Schweizer

BEFORE AND AFTER views of Eagle Mill Dam in Lee show the structure (above), just after the April high water period when a 30-foot section was washed down the Housatonic River, and yesterday as work crews completed removal of the 64-year-old rock and timber dam. Officials of Peter J. Schweitzer division, Kimberly-Clark Corp., owner of the dam, are having it razed because it had fallen into disuse and disrepair. Eagle Mill is on south bank in background.



#81

The Berkshire Eagle, Thursday, Oct. 1, 1970—21

Inspection of Schweitzer Dump Site Set

LEE — In an effort to resolve the controversy over an application for a permit for a private dump site on Willow Hill in northern Lee for Schweitzer mills, the Board of Health last night recommended that the Selectmen accompany the health board and representatives of District 1 on an inspection of the current Schweitzer dump and the prospective Willow Hill site.

The Selectmen scheduled the inspection tour for 3:30 Sunday.

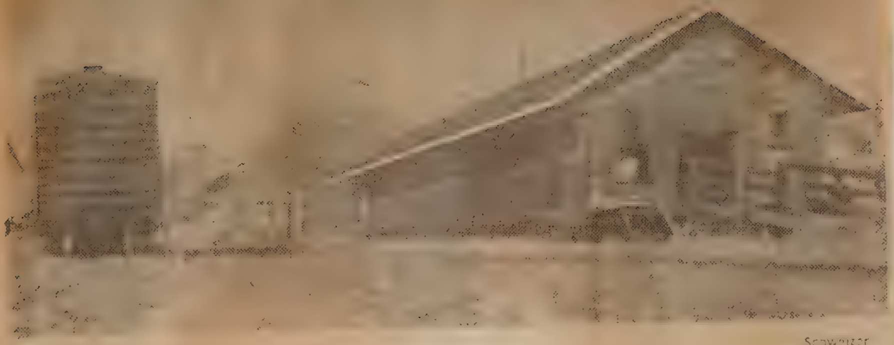
Board of Health member Gordon Turnbull told the Selectmen that he and board chairman Dr. Charles W. Stratton had inspected the current Schweitzer operation earlier this week and found that "it looked good." The fibrous waste from the mill waste-water treatment plant, which residents of the area of the Willow Hill site had contended had a foul odor, was not offensive in the least, Turnbull reported.

In addition, Turnbull said that Shepardson's Willow Hill site appeared to be satisfactory for the dumping of dry wastes. Dr. Stratton commented that the land-fill operation would actually improve lots abutting the site because unsightly holes would be filled and the land could be used for the possible construction of houses.

Three weeks ago Kenneth Shepardson requested a permit authorizing the dumping of dry waste from the Schweitzer mills. Eight residents appeared at a Board of Health hearing on the issue Sept. 21 and expressed vehement opposition. The board indicated that it would probably grant a three-month permit on a trial basis.

On Sept. 23, five representatives from District 1 appeared before the Selectmen to reiterate their opposition to the granting of the permit. Turnbull at the time indicated that he would recommend to the health board that it conduct a second hearing on the issue.

Voter registration for the November election is being held daily at the Town Hall, plus tomorrow night from 7 to 8 and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., the deadline for registering.



Schweitzer

TORN DOWN Thursday was the former New Haven Railroad freight depot in Lee. Built in 1907, the wood frame structure was used several years for storage by the Schweitzer mills until gutted by fire in 1967. Current owner Dresser-Hull Company razed it to make way for a building supplies warehouse. Station is in back.

Eagle 3/24/64

83

Salinetti Heads Assessors

LEE — The Assessors last night re-elected William [illegible] Salinetti as chairman of the board.

John E. Loring was [illegible] clerk. John J. Nagle is the third member.

The Assessors announced that the assessment books, which list valuations on town properties, will be distributed door to door this weekend. They will also be available beginning Monday at the Town Hall, Loring said. 3-15-73

3/17/73

Lee to plant 250 trees

LEE — J. Peter Scolforo, superintendent of Public Works, this week issued requests for bids to supply a total of 250 sugar maples, Norway maples and little leaf linden trees.

Scolforo said the trees will be planted on public and private property, if permission is given. The trees were ordered to replace the 120 elm trees lost in the town to Dutch elm disease.

The bids are due at the superintendent's office by 8 p.m. Monday, March 26.

Laurel Lake free of ice

LEE—Laurel Lake, which was free of ice last Sunday, may have broken an ice-off record.

Last year the lake was still mostly frozen on the opening day of fishing season, which was April 22. This year's fishing season, which was originally scheduled to begin April 21 but was advanced to April 14, will almost certainly begin there with open water.

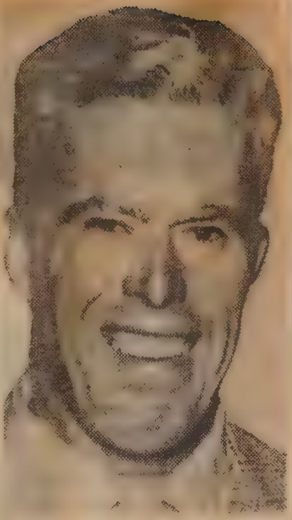
Town Clerk John Nagle said today that Goose Pond is still frozen, except for a 20-foot strip around the edge, and that Greenwater Pond is also frozen over. He said that over the years, Greenwater Pond has been ice free one or two days after Goose Pond clears.

Laurel Lake was observed to be open in several spots through much of the winter, especially near the asphalt ramp off Route 102 on the east side. Unusual activities on the lake this winter included several below-ice skin-diving classes taught by Jerry J. Smith and a grade school ice-fishing jamboree, led by Central School teacher Robert Tierney, in February. 3/21/73

[illegible]

Martin H. Deely

Miss Marguerite M. Tristany


John J. Loughlin

Francis D. Foley

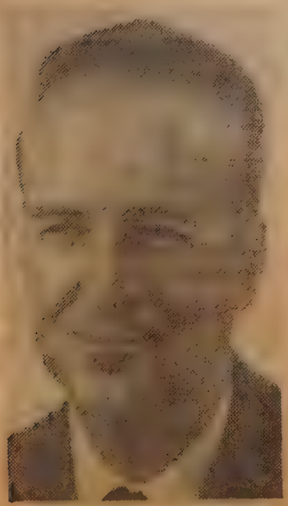
Charles J. Holmes

Joseph J. Castronova

William J. Brown

Miss Linda M. Giarolo

Francis G. Fanning


Dr. Charles W. Stratton

Donald J. Mooney

John J. Nagle

Lee Voters Elect Deely, Misses Tristany, Giarolo

LEE—Voters yesterday elected Martin H. Deely as selectman and Miss Marguerite M. Tristany to the School Committee, both by relatively wide margins.

Incumbent school committeeman John J. Loughlin was easily re-elected, as were all other incumbents, barring two constables and a member of the housing authority.

Some 1,418 voters cast ballots. This was 42.5 per cent of the town's registered vote. Town Clerk John Nagel, who was re-elected as an assessor in an uncontested ballot, said the voter turnout was "fairly high for town elections."

Donahoe Popular

Incumbent Moderator Henry M. Donahoe proved the most popular, with 1,185 voting for him. Both Donahoe and Miss Tristany had been endorsed by both parties.

Two officials who had been appointed to fill vacancies on town boards lost their battle for election. Richard Hommes of the Sewer Commission was edged out by Joseph Castronova, and Frederick A. Warden of the Water Commission lost to Donald J. Mooney. A third appointee, Charles J. Holmes, was elected over Paul A. Moore for a four-year term on the Planning Board.

In the housing authority contests, one of those elected was 22-year-old Miss Linda M. Giarolo. She received the third highest vote in that race, defeating incumbent Clyde A. Gleason and nominee Mrs. Elizabeth Huss. Miss Giarolo is a member of the Young Democrats of Lee, and was instrumental in organizing a campaign to register young voters.

Others elected to the housing authority were incumbent George E. Frulla, William J. Brown, and Francis S Fanning.

Planners Re-Elected

Town Planning Board members who helped draw up the defeated septic-system bylaw and the controversial sign bylaw won re-election. Francis D. Foley and appointee Holmes will sit for the five- and four-year terms, respectively. However, Sewer Commissioner appointee Hommes, who was involved in the town-Massachusetts Turnpike Authority sewer line proposal, failed to gain enough support for election.

Dr Charles W. Stratton, for 23 years a member of the Board of Health, was re-elected overwhelmingly, defeating John J. Wheeler 1,002 to 398.

George T. O'Neil, 71-year-old tree warden for the past 31 years, staved off young challenger Andrew G. Ketchen to win re-election, 879 to 455.

The balloting was as follows:

MODERATOR (Elect 1, 1 year)	
*Henry M. Donahoe	1,185
SELECTMAN (Elect 1, 3 years)	
Martin H. Deely	957
John A. Dadak	404
SCHOOL COMMITTEE (Elect 2, 3 years)	
*John J. Loughlin	778
Miss Marguerite M. Tristany	1,076
Richard Hommes	540
PLANNING BOARD (Elect 1, 5 years)	
*Francis D. Foley	725
James W. Wright	514
PLANNING BOARD (Elect 1, 4 years)	
*Charles J. Holmes	788
Paul A. Moore	440
TREE WARDEN (Elect 1, 1 year)	
*George T. O'Neil	879
Andrew G. Ketchen Jr.	455
SEWER COMMISSION (Elect 1, 2 years)	
Joseph Castronova	679
Richard Hommes	566
SEWER COMMISSION (Elect 1, 3 years)	
*Dominic Biasin	1,092
WATER COMMISSION (Elect 1, 2 years)	
Donald J. Mooney	783
Frederick A. Warden	562
WATER COMMISSION (Elect 1, 3 years)	
*Harold E. Soules	1,050
BOARD OF HEALTH (Elect 1, 3 years)	
*Dr. Charles W. Stratton	1,002
John J. Wheeler	398
HOUSING AUTHORITY (Elect 4 for 2, 4, and 5 years)	
William J. Brown	941
*George E. Frulla	900
Miss Linda M. Giarolo	863
Francis C. Fanning	809
*Clyde A. Gleason	627
Mrs. Elizabeth Huss	495
CONSTABLE (Elect 4, 1 year)	
*Adelard J. Laliberte	931
Alan B. Sparks	833
Henry J. Smachetti	825
John J. Wheeler	793
*Wilbur J. Hunt Jr.	466
*Richard Palmer	426
Myron J. Shaw	241
Rainsford B. Morehouse	227

88

Lee Selectmen postpone decision on allowing field for model planes

LEE — Following a hearing attended by 33 persons for and against a proposed flying field for model airplanes off Maple Street here, the Selectmen last night took the proposal under advisement.

The field would be on land purchased by the town about eight years ago for construction of a Middle School which never was built. The site is southeast of the tract on which Lee High School stands.

John Kastrinakis of Richmond Avenue, a proponent, exhibited three engines of the type that power model airplanes, and a muffler that, later in the hearing, was said to be used on engines "over a certain size."

The radio device used to control the airplanes, he said, is seldom more than a quarter of a watt in power, and the minimum power of a transmitter, before a Federal Communications Commission license is required, is a half watt.

Suspended during burials

He said members of the Pittsfield model airplane club would only come to Lee in a teaching or advisory capacity, and stressed that the local facility would be for the use of Lee people. He also said flying of the airplanes would be suspended during burial services at nearby Fairmount Cemetery.

He said measurements made in the area while model airplanes were flying in a demonstration showed that sound levels were increased only about two decibels over the usual sound pollution in that area, which is about a quarter of a mile north of the Massachusetts Turnpike and its Lee Interchange.

Roger E. Errington of Maple Street read a statement signed by himself and 11 others, which stated that they respected the intentions of the proponents, but hoped a suitable site could be found elsewhere than Maple Street

'Continuing annoyance'

"It is obvious to us that the noise generated by model airplane engines is of sufficient volume and of such a tone as to be a continuing annoyance and aggravation in a residential area," he said. He also stated that flyers of the airplanes have said their clubs carry "a heavy amount of liability insurance" and this indicates the "very real possibility of accident and injury."

In reference to rockets, which might also be flown from the proposed field, he said these could be a hazard to traffic on the turnpike, and that retrieval of rockets, as well as of model airplanes that didn't respond to their controls, will cause trespassing problems.

Dr. Charles W. Stratton, of the Board of Health, asked by the Selectmen if he knew of any health hazard caused by the model airplanes, said he knew of none. Lester J. Clarke of South Lee, another member of the Board of Health, said he dissented on the basis that noise was not conducive to good health. He declined the Selectmen's offer that this be considered a medical opinion.

High school petition

William DeFreest, Lee High student, submitted a petition which he said had been circulated at the school. The petition, bearing 97 signatures, was in favor of the field.

Kastrinakis submitted a petition bearing 223 signatures, also in favor of the field.

James V. Bianco and Henry G. Greiner spoke in favor of the field as providing an added sport that would benefit youth of the town. William F. Tyer Jr., town meeting representative from District 1, said he had been asked by constituents to be recorded in favor of the field. He said he had received more calls on the issue than on any other in the past three years.

William B. Navin said that although he was normally for any activity for children, he thought this particular activity ought to be carried on in a part of town where there were no homes.

Eben Kimball, who said he lived across the street, said he thought that after working all week a man should be able to enjoy a quiet weekend.

Sewer connections, complete installation, $3.50 per foot. Call Lee Blacktop Corp., 243-1246. —Adv. —26

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3/20/73

Lawrence S. Burns

MODEL AIRPLANES were subject of meeting in Lee last night before Selectmen. George Parker, standing, told the 25 persons present for the meeting that the hobby offers safe, constructive recreation. Seated in background are Selectmen, from left, Edward F. Murray, Martin H. Deely, chairman, and John J. Wheeler.

Proposed field for model airplanes draws opposition of Lee neighbors

LEE — Proponents of the model airplane field which residents planned south of the high school and off Maple Street, ran into opposition last night at a meeting held before the Selectmen.

Most of the 25 persons at the meeting were opposed to the project because of the noise the small engined planes would make in their neighborhood.

Spokesmen for the fliers were John Kastrinakis of Richmond Avenue, George Parker of Paul Drive and Harold E. Soules of Martin Avenue. Soules, speaking for the Department of Public Works (DPW) commission, of which he is chairman, said the commission would help set up the flying fields. He said earlier that the land would be filled and graded by volunteers from Kiwanis and other clubs.

Opponents heard

Led by Mrs. Ann Errington, a Maple Street abutter, the opponents complained of noise, air pollution, and possible danger of the small aircraft crashing into persons and property in the area.

Mrs. Errington read data compiled by Samuel Sass of the Pittsfield Noise Control Commission, which maintained that the noise of engines powering the small planes often reached 80 decibles, and could be heard as far as a mile away. The statistics, from government publications, compared the sound of the engines at 50 feet to the noise inside a factory, or the noise of a freight train at 50 feet, she said.

Mrs. Errington added that a pneumatic hammer at 50 feet makes 85 decibles.

The abutters to the field said they already had to cope with noise from the nearby Massachusetts Turnpike, and would not tolerate the added noise from the airplanes. They suggested the hobbyists find a different site, and they suggested the Tyringham valley as a possible alternative.

Brattlebrook Park

Parker said his group currently used Brattlebrook Park in Pittsfield, but would like a site in Lee for the Lee fliers. He said the group would restrict their flying after 9 a.m. He said no more than three planes would be in the air at any one time.

He said all radio controlled plane operators need FCC licenses and must be over 18 years old. Wire controlled planes can be operated by children, he said. Parker said none of the adults will profit financially from the club.

Kastrinakis said the Pittsfield flying club has been involved with the Lee fliers and would merge with them in the new club. He said the Pittsfield club would offer rules, regulations, safety precautions and adult supervision.

Selectmen Chairman Martin H. Deely asked the club if it would demonstrate the planes for the public. Parker and Soules agreed, but no date was set. Deely said there will be a public hearing before the town-owned land is made available for the club's use.

The town acquired the land about five years ago for construction of a new middle school and swimming pool, plans for which a special town meeting subsequently rejected. The site is due south of the Lee High School baseball field.

JULY 5, 1936

Hyde Park School at Lee Alma Mater of Celebrities

Lee, July 4—One hundred years have passed since the first institution of learning was established in this town by Alexander Hyde, a graduate of Williams college. During this century of education many prominent clergymen and successful business men have been graduated from the public schools of this town. Around the year 1850 James Roosevelt, father of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, obtained his early education in the Hyde Park school which was run by Mr Hyde as a private institution.

After graduating from Williams college in 1835 Alexander Hyde came back to his home in Lee and started the Lee academy, which was later merged into the Lee high school. He acted as the only teacher for two years and in 1837 he opened a private school for boys in his own home which still stands as it did then on West Park street near the railroad crossing. This school was known as the Hyde Park school and was open from 1837 to 1867 a span of 30 years. According to Mrs Theodora Hyde Mossman of Worcester, a daughter of Mr Hyde, James Roosevelt came to her father's school around 1850. During his stay at this school his mother, the President's grandmother, visited the school to see her son and persuaded Mrs Alexander Hyde to name her new born child "Mary Roosevelt Hyde."

The Roosevelt family has been connected with Southern Berkshire more than anyone has ever expected. The father of former President Theodore Roosevelt once owned the Lenox Glass works which was located in Lenoxdale and as a child young Roosevelt spent his summer months riding on the Glass Works wagon. And connecting the early education of James Roosevelt with the Hyde Park school it is interesting to note that the President's home is in Hyde Park, New York.

History of Schools

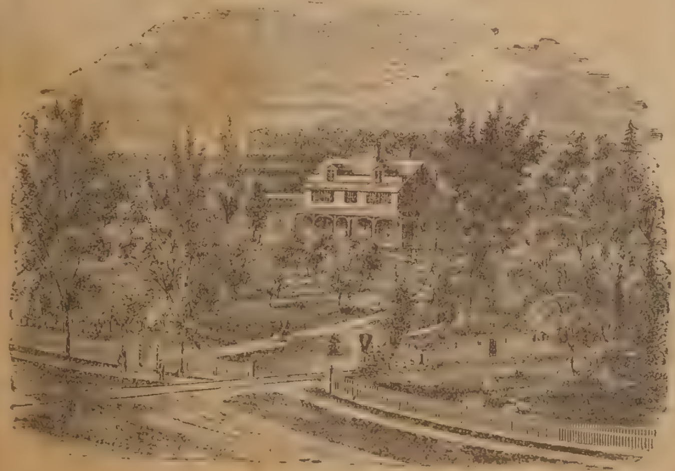
From a copy of the "Centennial History of the Town of Lee," which was compiled by Alexander Hyde and his father, Rev C. M. Hyde, D. D., the following information was learned about the early institutions of learning. After Mr Hyde left the Lee academy (which he started in 1835) to open a boarding school in his own home in 1837 a public school of high grade was felt to be a necessity by the leading citizens of the community.

A meeting of the friends of education was called February 1837 at which William Porter presented a plan for the organization of the Lee Academy association. This was a stock-company, the shares reckoned at $25 a share and each share entitled the owner to a vote. Seventy-five persons took stock in the company and committees were appointed to procure a site and plans for the academy building. The committee on a site reported the one on which the grammar school or Hyde school now stands, but the title to the land was in dispute between the American Bible society to which it had been willed by Mrs Tammy Adams and her heirs.

The association purchased a quitclaim deed from the heirs and proceeded to build. The courts afterwards decided that the title was equitable in the Bible society, but this society freely relinquished all claim to so much of the Adams estate as was occupied by the Methodist church and the academy, in consideration of the buildings being occupied for the cause of religion and education.

The academy building was completed in the summer of 1837 and was formerly dedicated October 10. I. W. Andrews was selected as the principal of the school at a salary of $400 a year and his board. With him was associated as assistant teacher, Mrs Jerusha L. Perry. This school was conducted with varying success on its original plan as an academy, charging tuition for all pupils, both from this town and elsewhere until 1851 when after a long struggle the building was leased to the town of Lee for a public school.

HYDE PARK SCHOOL



This is where Alexander Hyde started his first academy in which James Roosevelt, father of the President, received his early education

Elm Court greenhouse branches out

By Lawrence Burns

LEE — More than 200 customers visited the Elm Court Floral Shop at 77 Main St. in the first four hours of its opening last Wednesday. And the response was warmly appreciated by the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Fiorini of Stockbridge Road, Lenox.

The Fiorinis have operated the Elm Court Greenhouse in Lenox for 25 years and have long looked forward to opening a branch in Lee to expand their retail sales. Fiorini said that because their Lenox shop is "off the beaten path," they have had to depend on wholesale marketing and sell to other sellers.

Lawrence Burns

PROPRIETORS of the Elm Court Floral Shop at 77 Main St., Lee, posed Wednesday at the opening of the Elm Court Greenhouse branch. From left are Doris and Anthony Fiorini, owners, and Mrs. Dorothy Dunn, manager.

Doing well

They have done well with just the greenhouse, he said, but now, with the price advantage he will have by growing his own plants and with the convenience to Lee residents of having a shop on Main Street, business should really flower.

Fiorini, a graduate in landscaping from the University of Massachusetts, used his botanical skills and interests to set up the huge, moist and plush indoor garden in Lenox, where he and his wife, Doris, grow both tropical and native plants and flowers.

Mrs. Dorothy Dunn of 35 South Prospect St. will be managing the Lee store. She has 11 years of experience in floral design and, according to her employers, is adept at composing arrangements utilizing seasonal flowers. The shop will feature custom arrangements for weddings, parties and other festive occasions, and sprays for funerals.

All are welcome

Mrs. Fiorini emphasized that shoppers with small purchases in mind will be encouraged to come in and browse. The proprietors are as interested in serving the "woman who only wants a single rose for that old kitchen table vase" as customers with larger orders.

Seasonal plants featured now are gladioli, Liatris, silverkings, asters, mini-carnations, sweetheart roses, pompons and baby's breath. For the fall are sea oats, oats, wheat, strawflowers, hill flowers, monkey roses, and eucalyptus plants.

Store hours will be from 9:30 to 5 Monday through Saturday.

Isolate sickroom

If your home heating system operates with a fan or blower to spread the heat, it may be spreading germs along with it, making it difficult to isolate sickrooms. According to the National Better Heating-Cooling Council, in hydronic (modern hot water) heating systems, the heat is spread by natural convection without fans or blowers.

#90

The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, Oct. 23, 1973— 19

Lee

Goodwill to open store in Lee

LEE — Goodwill Industries, Inc., which employes the handicapped to recondition used items for resale to the public, is opening its fifth Berkshire County store here.

The opening at 56 Main St., former site of a Laundromat, will be in about two weeks, according to Mrs. Lauriel St. Jacques, who will manage the store.

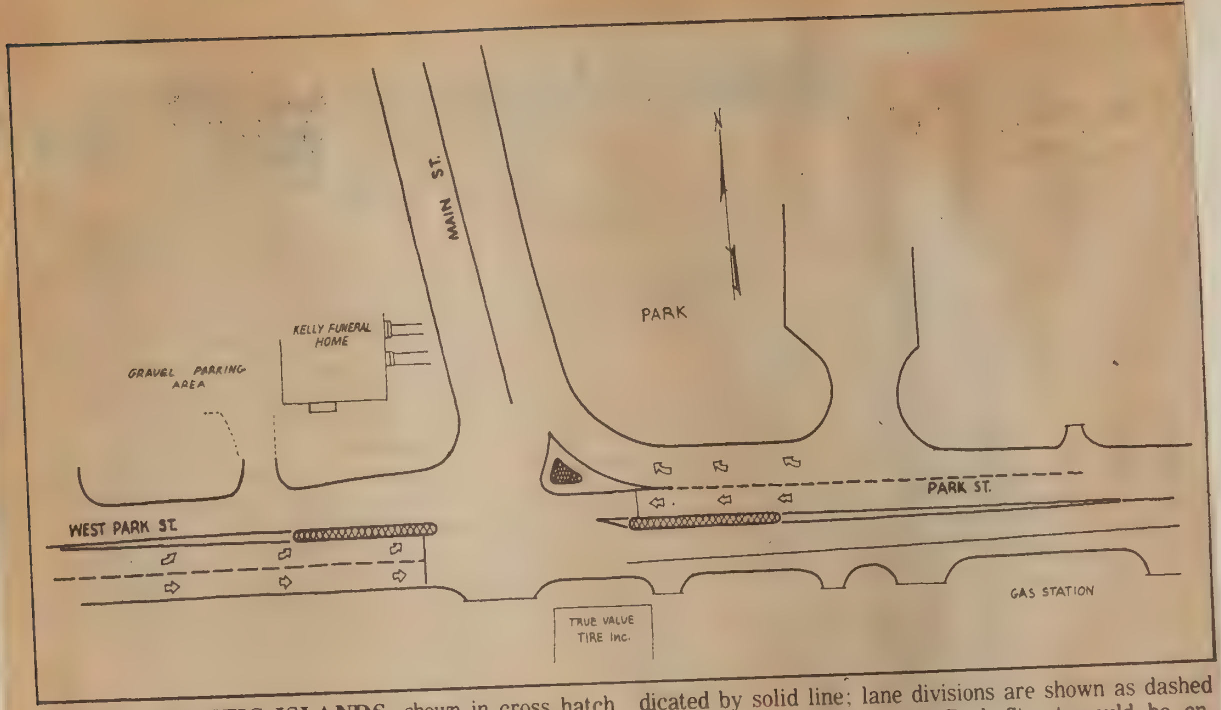
Mrs. St. Jacques of Lenox will move to the new operation after three years as manager of Goodwill's Great Barrington store. She will be replaced there by Mrs. Joanne Wright of Sheffield.

Goodwill is also opening another store in Adams. The corporation already has two stores in Pittsfield and one in North Adams, in addition to its Great Barrington outlet.

The stores are collection points for Goodwill donations as well as outlets for sale of the repaired items.

#91

Feb 28.1974 EAGLE



THREE TRAFFIC ISLANDS, shown in cross hatch on DPW plan of proposed intersection above, should smooth flow of traffic at intersection of Park, West Park and Main streets, DPW officials say. Painted lines are indicated by solid line; lane divisions are shown as dashed lines. North corner of West Park Street would be enlarged slightly; south side of Park and West Park would gain five feet.

New Lee traffic plan unveiled

Islands would be constructed at Park and Main

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — State highway designers unveiled plans for three traffic islands at the intersection of Park and Main streets here Monday night, and won local permission to begin drafting working drawings.

The project, which will cost the state "somewhere in the vicinity of $75,000," according to state Department of Public Works (DPW) officials, could be completed by Christmas. Town funds will not be used.

As the DPW drawing above indicates, the islands will reinforce existing traffic patterns, rather than change them.

* * * *

Two long, narrow islands — one approaching the intersection from Park Street and the other from West Park Street — will separate cars traveling in opposite directions. Painted lines will further separate Route 20 traffic from cars heading east or west.

A third island near the center of the intersection will direct northbound Route 20 traffic onto Main Street from Park Street.

Stop signs on Park and West Park streets will halt east - and westbound traffic through the intersection and also northbound traffic coming from West Park Street. Cars heading north on Route 20 from Park Street, however, will not be stopped.

A 250-foot stretch of the south side of Park and West Park streets extending from Lee Savings Bank to the Park Street Arco station will be widened by five to six feet to provide room for the islands and enlarged traffic lanes.

* * * *

The plan also envisions reducing the width of the entrance to the roadway that now goes around the northeast side of the park in front of the First Congregational Church to discourage traffic from driving through.

That part of the plan, however, presents complications. DPW would narrow the roadway by adding a portion of land to the southeast corner of the park, but state law prohibits use of DPW funds to enhance private property. The park is owned by the church.

The problem could be solved if the church were to deed that corner of the park to the state.

The DPW design does not include traffic lights at the intersection, but engineer Robert B. Duffy said that he's not precluding their installation at a later date. "In fact," Duffy said, "we'll put the wires underneath the pavement so that you can install them later if you want."

* * * *

Traffic Commission and town Department of Public Works members expressed approval of the plan, which was presented to them and to Selectmen at the Town Hall Monday night, with two exceptions.

Town DPW members said that two traffic islands installed several years ago were subsequently removed (at the intersections of Route 102 and Meadow Street in South Lee and of Park and Housatonic streets in Lee) because they hampered fire truck passage through the intersections.

Selectmen Chairman Martin H. Deely also said that plowing and maintenance of traffic islands had proved to be difficult in the past.

But town DPW Superintendent J. Peter Scolforo said yesterday that the proposed islands shouldn't hamper fire truck travel because the turning radius was much larger than it had been in the earlier ones.

* * * *

Scolforo also said that the proposed islands would be plowed and maintained by state crews, rather than town ones.

"Plowing around islands can be a problem," Scolforo admitted, "but it'll be the state's problem, not ours."

Duffy and fellow DPW engineer Edwin S. Taginski, both from the state DPW office in Lenox, said that the project could be completed by Christmas.

They said that if the town approves final drawings, the project could be put out for bids by this summer. And once a contractor had been chosen — the bidding process usually takes two months — work should be completed within 60 to 90 days.

Con 't 92

Lee

6

Used Clothing To Be Sold At New 'Upstairs Basement'

Mrs. Alan Clayson

Photos by Ralph Conroy

Mrs. James Ervin

LEE — Two women, one from Lee and the other from Pittsfield, have opened a new shop called the Upstairs Basement at 2 Franklin St., around the corner and upstairs over Rossi's Restaurant.

Principals in the store, which will feature used clothing for men, women and children, are Mrs. Alan Clayson of 39 Academy St. and Mrs. James Ervin, who lives at Miss Hall's School in Pittsfield. The store opened its doors June 1.

Besides the clothes, which will be accepted on a consignment basis, it will offer household items, linens, toys and games.

Mrs. Clayson is the mother of two children and has lived here for the past five years. She is a graduate of Pembroke College in Providence, R.I., with a bachelor of arts degree in the history of art. She has taught art in local schools, and both crewel embroidery and yoga in the adult education program of the School Department. Her husband is employed at Eaton Paper Co.

Mrs. Ervin, a registered nurse graduated from the Newton-Wellesley Hospital School of Nursing. She is originally from Brockton. She and her husband, who is a mathematics and science teacher at Miss Hall's, have three children.

Rooms Renovated

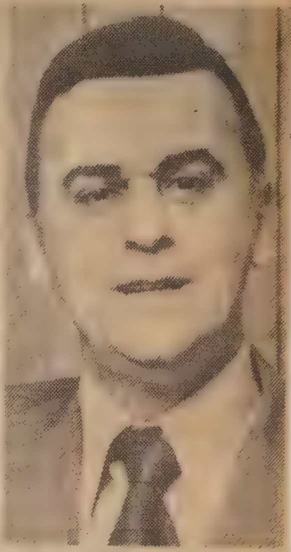
Renovations of the second-story rooms were done by Louis Schroeter of Cliffwood Street, Lenox.

The space for the Upstairs Basement is leased from Mrs. Helen A. Rossi in a building that houses, in addition to the restaurant, a shop known as Leather and Marc Anthony Hair Fashions. The quarters had been vacant for about 12 years, since the closing of Pilgrim Press.

The store is open Tuesdays through Fridays from 10 to 4, Friday nights from 7 to 9, and Saturday from 10 to 1.

Eagle 2/28/74

Lee engineer establishes new electrostatics firm



Anthony Q. Testone

LEE — Anthony Q. Testone, a former marketing manager with Clark-Aiken and a technical engineer, has opened an electrostatic engineering and marketing firm on Park Street.

Called Static, Inc., the firm will provide products and services for industries involved in graphic arts, textiles, pulp and papers, packaging, film, plastics, rubber, leather and pharmaceutics.

The firm has introduced a device called Autostat, a static neutralizing bar for use on machinery that handles large rolls of paper or plastic. The bar, unlike its predecessors, requires neither a power supply nor radioactive material to make it operate, but instead uses static energy generated by the moving rolls of paper or plastic.

Testone, who was born in Lansdale, Pa., and who graduated from Indiana Institute of Technology in 1961, has spent 14 years in electrostatic engineering. In 1966, after several years with a Pennsylvania electrostatic firm, he founded his own firm in Philadelphia, Testone Electrostatics.

That firm was acquired by Custom Materials, Inc., in 1969 and sold in 1971. Testone subsequently joined Clark-Aiken, and was marketing manager for 14 months.

Testone, who opened his Park Street doors two weeks ago, already has five clients in Connecticut, North Carolina and New Jersey.

Testone and his wife, the former Shirley Sloan of Hatfield, live at 7 Pease Ter. They have two children.

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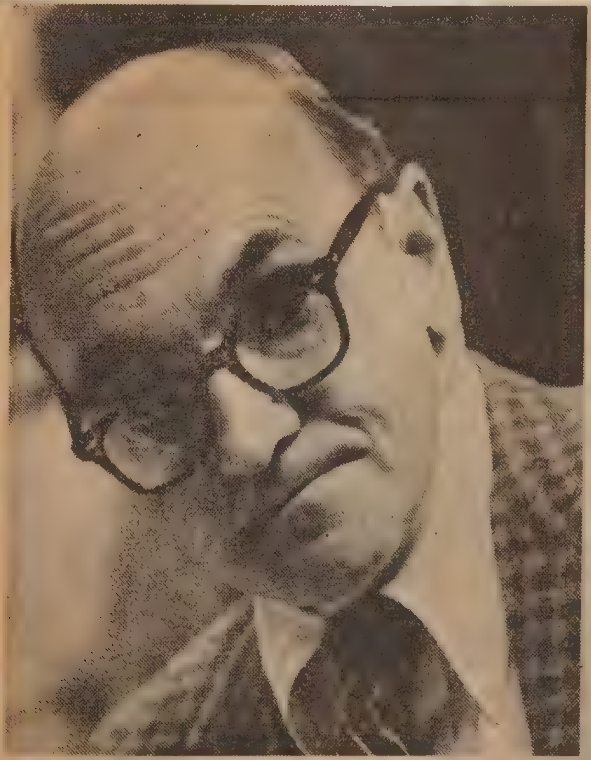
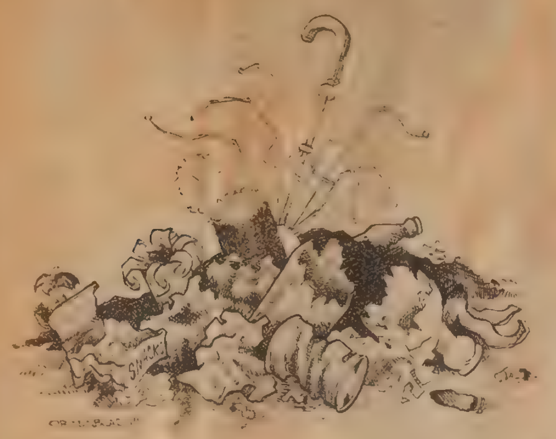


DPW engineer Robert B. Duffy

Ralph E. Brown

Selectman Martin H. Deely

The Blossoms of Spring



To the Editor of THE EAGLE.—

Spring is here, the snow has melted and our first spring crop of roadside garbage is bursting forth in riotous color.

Predominant along the highways and byways are multicolored beer cans. These hardy perennials come in many varieties. Thanks to modern science and technology they are no longer affected by rust, but can now be expected to blossom right through until the next winter's snow.

A less hardy but more persistent annual, the brightly colored paper package, is also much in evidence, providing a constant source of beauty to all but the most casual observer. Of course there are candy wrappers, cigarette packets, gum wrappers, match-book covers, tissues, soft-drink bottles, paper bags, plastic bags, newspapers and a multitude of rare and unusual species clustered around the tree roots and amidst the hedgerows.

The brown and white cigarette butt, one of the most persistently recurring blooms, has to be searched out, but it is there too, adding to the general background of springtime delight.

It is difficult to imagine just how drab and uninteresting our roadsides would be each spring if we did not have those beauty-minded people who go out of their way to decorate and plant such a wild profusion of garbage for all of us to appreciate. Their service to our country should be rewarded . . . maybe by making them clean it up!

PETER J. EBERTH.

Cape Street,
Lee.

Mon. Feb. 17-1967

Eagle - Thurs June 15, 1972

Plans for 150 Apartments in Lee Outlined

Boston Group Would Build On East Side

LEE — Proposed construction of 150 units of federally subsidized low- to middle-income housing was outlined at a meeting of about 25 persons last night at the Town Hall.

Chief speaker was Atty. Morton Myerson of Brookline, one of three major partners in a firm that would build the garden apartments off Tamarack Road near Abby Court, the post-World War II development of single-family houses on the east side of town. He said the new development would be called Lee Gardens.

Behind Lee High School

It would be just east of the forested ledge that runs north and south behind, and to the east of, Lee High School. That part of the ridge south of the development site is a town forest. Southeasterly of the forest is the 30-acre Foote farm, on which Marvin Gold of New Haven, Conn., proposed to build 200 middle-income apartments.

Immediately to the north of the Lee Gardens site are four acres on which the Garrity brothers of East Lee propose to build 28 apartments if they are allowed to cover a stream that flows through that area. Thus proposed apartment construction currently totals 378 units.

The proposal outlined last night would consist of what Myerson described as 14 buildings on 22 acres. They would be of wood-frame construction on concrete slabs. A drawing of the complex showed structures with a total of 43 roofs joined in various designs. There are three roof lines per building, with the exception of one which had four roof lines.

Subsidized Rents

Myerson said that 80 per cent of the apartments would be rented to persons with moderate incomes, such as a family of five with an income of up to $8,500 per year. The other 20 per cent would be rented to low-income people, whose rents would be subsidized by the federal government. They would be families whose income was $5,000 or less.

Frank McCarthy

DEVELOPER Morton Myerson, left, a principal in a firm which proposes to build 150 units of federally subsidized apartments in Lee, explains proposal to Selectmen Edward F. Murray, chairman of the Lee board, and John J. Wheeler at meeting last night at the Town Hall hearings room. Complex would be built near corner of Tam- [illegible]

The federal government would also assist with the financing. The developers, Myerson explained, would be allowed a return of up to 6 per cent on their investment. There would also be management salaries. Total mortgage on the project would be $2.8 million, he said.

During the time that it is operated under federal subsidy, the development would not pay taxes to the town on the basis of assessed valuation, Myerson said, but instead would pay a percentage of the income from rents. This would be from 12 to 15 per cent. He estimated it would be about $40,000 per year.

Myerson explained that since the federal government is making such a large contribution toward providing housing, it expects the town to make some contribution, thus the lower-than-normal income to the community from such a large complex.

Should the owners decide to end the relationship with the federal government after the minimum of 20 years required, Myerson said, the development would be assessed and would yield local taxes the same as any other such housing.

He said the proposal was a very "high quality" type of operation.

The development would consist of 72 one-bedroom, 60 two-

... reducing the number of apartments to 100, if the town thought that 150 were too many,
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or a total of
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considered en-
se in present
since some of
enants already

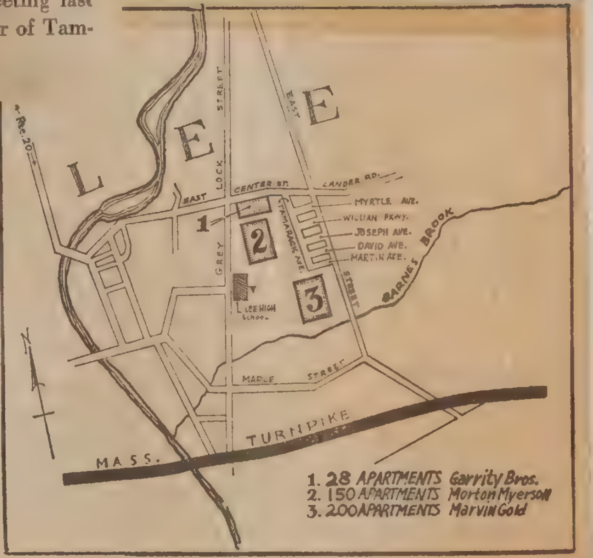
In filling the apartments, preference would be given first to local families, Myerson said.

He said his group currently has 300 apartments in two complexes off Christian Avenue in Concord and are building more in Manchester, N.H. His firm was directed to Lee by a real estate broker, he said, and the site here is what is known technically as "blighted." Owned by the Abderhalden family, it is partly swampland, therefore requiring a Hatch Act hearing before filling can begin.

Besides himself, Myerson said, the major partners are Richard A. Sullivan, attorney and gas company executive living in Kearsarge, N.H., and Mark J. Waltch of Newton, engineer with the Department of Urban Studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Myerson described as minor partners Joseph T. Kelley of 19a South Mountain Road, Pittsfield, president of the Berkshire Gas Co., and Everett A. Kelsey, 240 Old Stockbridge Road, Lenox, senior vice president in charge of sales and public relations with the gas company.

Also accompanying Myerson to last night's meeting was Stephen B. Hibbard, Pittsfield attorney, and Frederick J. Rossini, Lenox real estate broker.



Kelley commented following the meeting that he was involved in the proposal because "Lee has growth pressure and something is going to come along to satisfy it.

"I think this project can do something beneficial for Lee," Kelley said.

Presiding at the meeting was Edward F. Murray, chairman of the Selectmen, who cautioned those attending that the occasion was not one for making speeches, but rather for eliciting information. Formal public hearings will come later, he said.

Dad likes Interwoven socks from Jack's in Lee.—Adv. —16

Give dad a Van Heusen shirt from Jack's in Lee.—Adv. —16

Father's Day cards by Ambassadore. Lee Pharmacy.—Adv. —16

Eagle Times June 15, 1972

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Plans for 150 Apartments in Lee Outlined

Boston Group Would Build On East Side

LEE — Proposed construction of 150 units of federally subsidized low- to middle-income housing was outlined at a meeting of about 25 persons last night at the Town Hall.

Chief speaker was Atty. Morton Myerson of Brookline, one of three major partners in a firm that would build the garden apartments off Tamarack Road near Abby Court, the post-World War II development of single-family houses on the east side of town. He said the new development would be called Lee Gardens.

Behind Lee High School

It would be just east of the forested ledge that runs north and south behind, and to the east of, Lee High School. That part of the ridge south of the development site is a town forest. Southeasterly of the forest is the 30-acre Foote farm, on which Marvin Gold of New Haven, Conn., proposed to build 200 middle-income apartments.

Immediately to the north of the Lee Gardens site are four acres on which the Garrity brothers of East Lee propose to build 28 apartments if they are allowed to cover a stream that flows through that area. Thus proposed apartment construction currently totals 378 units.

The proposal outlined last night would consist of what Myerson described as 14 buildings on 22 acres. They would be of wood-frame construction on concrete slabs. A drawing of the complex showed structures with a total of 43 roofs joined in various designs. There are three roof lines per building, with the exception of one which had four roof lines.

Subsidized Rents

Myerson said that 80 per cent of the apartments would be rented to persons with moderate incomes, such as a family of five with an income of up to $8,500 per year. The other 20 per cent would be rented to low-income people, whose rents would be subsidized by the federal government. They would be families whose income was $5,000 or less.

Frank McCarthy

DEVELOPER Morton Myerson, left, a principal in a firm which proposes to build 150 units of federally subsidized apartments in Lee, explains proposal to Selectmen Edward F. Murray, chairman of the Lee board, and John J. Wheeler at meeting last night at the Town Hall hearings room. Complex would be built near corner of Tam- [illegible] Road and East Center Street.

The federal government would also assist with the financing. The developers, Myerson explained, would be allowed a return of up to 6 per cent [illegible] their investment. The [illegible] also be mana [illegible] Total [illegible] ing su [illegible] contribution toward providing housing, it expects the town to make some contribution, thus the lower-than-normal income to the community from such a large complex.

[illegible] reducing the number of apartments to 100, if the town thought that 150 were too many, but would go no lower than that.

In response to inquiries about the possible effect on school population, Myerson said 120 children was a "good estimate." But at another point, he said 1.5 children per unit, or a total of 225, was a possibility. He noted this could not be considered entirely an increase in present school population since some of the prospective tenants already live here.

In filling the apartments, preference would be given first to local families, Myerson said.

He said his group currently has 300 apartments in two complexes off Christian Avenue in Concord and are building more in Manchester, N.H. His firm was directed to Lee by a real estate broker, he said, and the site here is what is known technically as "blighted." Owned by the Abderhalden family, it is partly swampland, therefore requiring a Hatch Act hearing before filling can begin.

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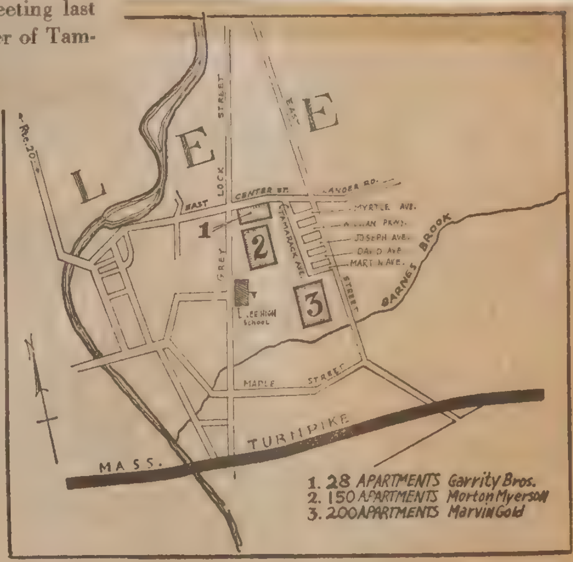

1. 28 APARTMENTS Garrity Bros.
2. 150 APARTMENTS Morton Myerson
3. 200 APARTMENTS Marvin Gold

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Otis

Bluebirds will continue to
eet Thursday from 10 to 11:30
m. at the home of Mrs. Wil-
m Dyer. Transportation must
provided by parents.

Kiwanis Club members will
ar Rep. Alan Sisitsky, D-
ringfield, at a meeting tonight
6:30 at the Knox Trail Inn.

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378 Apartments Proposed for Lee In 3 Developments

By RALPH CONROY

LEE — Three different proposals from developers would result in a total of 378 new apartments in Lee, all to be constructed on the east side.

Two plans were disclosed last night. Under one proposal, New Haven, Conn., developers would build 200 units on 30 acres at the southwest corner of East Street and Martin Avenue. Under a second proposal, which will be presented in detail to the Selectmen tomorrow at 8 p.m., officials of the Berkshire Gas Co. will build 150 apartments on 26 acres of land between Tamarack Road and East Center Street.

Zoning Limit

Since both proposals are located in an R-20 district, zoning bylaws limit density of both developers to 12 units per acre and 15 per cent land coverage, according to the Planning Board.

The first proposal is that of Marvin C. Gold & Associates of New Haven which has an option on what is known as the Foote property off East Street. Gold said at a meeting last night with the Planning Board that his firm would construct 48 one-bedroom, 102 two-bedroom and 50 three-bedroom apartments to be housed in 13 wood-frame buildings. He said these figures are subject to change.

Gold, who described himself as an attorney who has built some 200 gasoline stations, 10 to 12 post offices as well as shopping centers, garden apartments, and high-rise apartments, estimated his proposal in Lee would cost about $2.5 million, including finance charges.

He told the Planning Board that his apartments would rent for between $145 and $200, depending on the number of bedrooms. His plans call for 300 parking spaces and 13 two-story buildings. The largest would house 24 apartment units, the smallest eight. He said that he would bring [illegible] would allow 360 units but that he has limited his development to 200 in order to keep as much open country

[illegible]

Gold showed a proposed layout depicting his buildings along a circular road with both ends on East Street. He estimated that construction, which may be done by his own company as general contractor and local companies as subcontractors could be accomplished within [illegible] months after it is begun. He said his own frim might or might not provide the financing.

He claimed that his development would not draw new residents to Lee and that it would have no serious impact upon the schools, which are already deemed by the School Department [illegible] night's meeting were Gerald Kagan, who described himself as an architect and a professor of urban development at Yale University, Atty. Edward Brooks III and Howard H. Gimbel, who identified himself as a developer.

School Population

In reference to Gold's claim that three-bedroom apartments would not necessarily increase the school population, Kagan said that the tenants of multi-bedroom apartments might use their extra space for "sewing rooms."

The buildings shown in the initial plan were rectangular, with floor-to-ceiling glass and flat roofs. Centrally located in the development would be an outdoor swimming pool and recreation building housing another pool and tennis tables.

Gold said that at this time, plans call for the development to be privately funded, with no federal subsidization.

Because the property includes a small pond approximately 200 feet behind, or to the west of the complex, the developers met with the Conservation Commission. Barnes Brook flows [illegible] the Planning Board, suggested that Gold arrange further meetings with the Selectmen and the Public Works Commission to explain their project.

Second Proposal

Selectman Martin H. Deely scheduled a meeting for tomorrow night with developers of the second proposal. They include two Pittsfield men, Joseph P. Kelley, president, and Everett Kelsey, vice president of Berkshire Gas Co. It calls for 150 units of mixed one-, two- and three-bedroom units on 26 acres between Tamarack Road and Greylock Street, to the north of the Gold project.

Deely said that Atty. Morton Myerson and Richard Sullivan of Boston and Mark Waltch, an instructor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, are also involved in the development.

Deely said that the developers have an option on the property [illegible] sidized under the Federal Housing Act of 1968. He said a public hearing would be called at a later date.

According to Deely, the proposed units would rent for between $130 and $190 per month.

Garrity Proposal

Last month Henry S. Garrity of Garrity Brothers, an East Lee contracting firm, outlined a proposal for construction of a 28-unit apartment complex on a four-acre parcel off East Center Street north of the Kelley project.

The Garrity apartments would be built at the southwest corner of East Center and Tamarack Road and would rent from $180 to $190, including water, heat and electricity.

Garrity presented his plan to the Conservation Commission because of the possible need for a Hatch Act hearing. The commission told him to submit a formal application, after which it would schedule the hearing. However, Garrity has not applied nor has he brought his plans before the Planning Board.

The most recent apartments constructed here are the Garfield Town House development, which includes 12 units between Academy Street and Ferncliff Avenue off Main Street. These were the first apartments built in Lee for three years. Over the past 20 years, new apartments

[illegible]

Planned Route 102 Truck-Auto Service Area Attacked as Pollution, Defended as Progress

By RALPH CONROY

LEE — The Union Oil Co. of California's proposed combination automobile and truck stop complex was branded as visual pollution, noise pollution but defended as progress at a public hearing Thursday night at the Town Hall.

About 15 people attending heard the oil company's interstate development manager, Frank Megrew, outline the company's history and saw a 15-minute color-slide presentation of various automobile-truck stops the company has constructed throughout the country.

Megrew told the audience that Union Oil began business in 1890 in California and is today the 13th largest oil company in the nation, with $2.5 billion in assets. After Megrew's presentation, the meeting was thrown open for a question-and-answer period.

Petition Opposed

The most vociferous attacks against the proposal, planned on about 12 acres on the northwest side of Route 102 just southwest of the Massachusetts Turnpike Interchange, and just west of the Housatonic River, came from William Brighenti of River Road. Brighenti, who is circulating a petition against the oil company's proposal, says he already has 100 signatures.

Brighenti charged that the oil company complex would draw trucks and consequently noise 24 hours per day, would depreciate the value of homes in the immediate area, cause a traffic hazard and might even draw prostitutes.

"Truck drivers will bring them in with them," Brighenti said.

"That's ridiculous," Megrew replied.

Brighenti told Megrew that the complex would draw much more traffic into the area than there is now, since the complex, which the company says will cost about $1.5 million, could not survive on the truck and automobile traffic now passing through Lee.

Planning Board Review

Hillard J. "Mike" Moreyn of Pleasant Street said the complex would be "visual pollution," similar to the warehouse owned by Kaufman Bros. Inc., on Route 102. He asked Megrew if the oil company would subject the plans for construction to the approval of an architect selected by the Planning Board. Megrew said he would.

Moreyn also charged that the surface drainage from the proposed complex could further contaminate the Housatonic River. Megrew responded that the company would construct drains to prevent seepage into the river. He did not indicate where such drains would go.

Louis Petersoli of Route 102 defended the Kaufman Bros. warehouse, saying "It was only a swamp before" and now brings in revenue to the town by taxes. He said the proposed complex would be "progress."

Mr. and Mrs. Petersoli own one of the three houses which would be taken by the oil company should it be given approval for construction of the complex.

Another house is owned by RUR, a Pittsfield real estate agency, and is rented to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Murray. The third house is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Coty. Union Oil has assured the owners that they would be allowed to move their houses to another site after the sale of the property is consummated.

Speaking in favor of the proposal, besides Petersoli, was Dominic A. Biasin, chairman of District 3, town meeting representatives. He said that many of the people in the district have told him that they are now for the proposal.

Biasin was among a delegation of residents who spoke against the complex at the Selectmen's meeting of May 15. At that time he said that most of District 3 was opposed. Biasin said Thursday that his own change of opinion was prompted by more information he had received about the proposal, and the tax revenue and the jobs it would bring.

Martin Griffith, an oil company representative who has been knocking on doors in the area of the proposed site and describing what the complex would be like, has estimated that the complex would hire about 125 people.

RUR, which owns most of the property within the 12 acres, has filed a request for a permit to store 90,000 gallons of fuel underground at the Route 102 site.102 site. There would be three 20,000-gallon tanks for diesel fuel; one for 20,000 gallons of gasoline and one for 10,000 gallons of gasoline.

The Selectmen are expected to act on the storage application at their meeting Monday night. Griffith said that his company has applied for a Hatch Act hearing with the state Department of Public Works and Department of Natural Resources, but that the hearing has not yet been scheduled. A Hatch Act hearing, usually held by the local Conservation Commission, is necessary because of the proposed complex's proximity to the Housatonic River.

No Zoning Involved

There is no zoning question at issue since the site of the proposed complex is zoned for industry. Under Lee's zoning bylaw, retail commercial operations are allowed in an industrial zone.

Besides the automobile truck stop, the oil company plans to include in its complex, a 24-hour restaurant capable of serving 150 people; a gift shop and 13 rooms to be rented to truck drivers.

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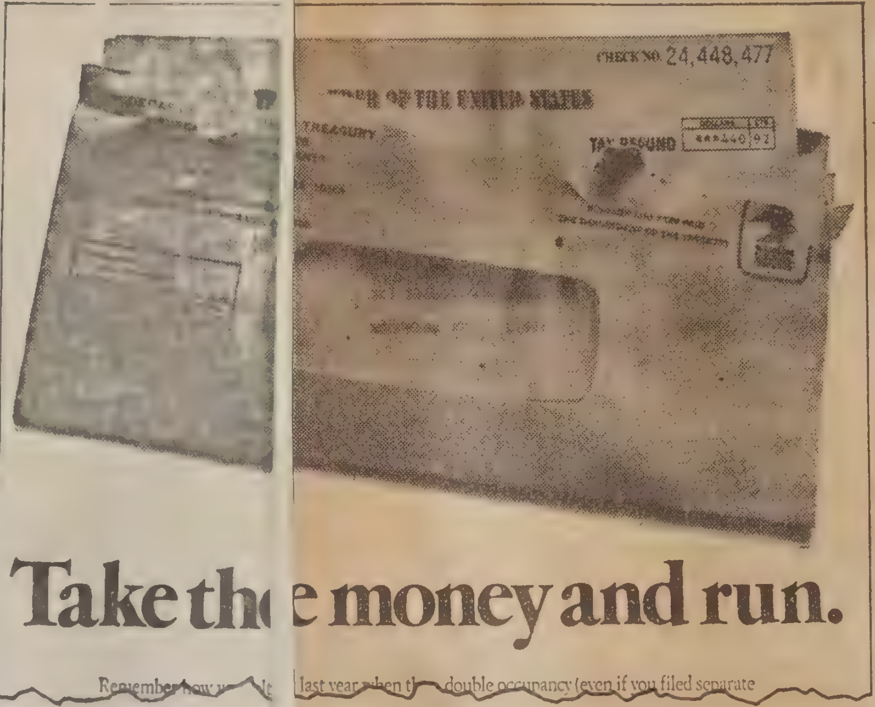
Taxpayers Spend Refunds on 'Basics'


CHECK NO. 24,448,477
TAX REFUND
Take the money and run.
Remember how last year when th double occupancy (even if you filed separate

Pan American made this suggestion in an ad keyed to tax returns

Amounts Soar, but Inflation Cuts Value

By ELIZABETH M. FOWLER

Ben R. Womer, a steel worker who lives in Dundalk, Md., earned $11,000 last year and has just received a tax refund of $190. "We gave it to Sears, Roebuck," he says, towards a new clothes washer and dryer.

Edward Moreno, of San Jose, Calif., got a refund of $142 and plans to spend it on his annual fishing trip to Mexico. Mr. Moreno makes $9,000 a year.

In Kansas City, Karen Brown, who calls herself "middle income," said she plans to spend her refund of about $160 "on paint and more furniture" for the house into which she moved recently from an apartment.

Average Is Up

People who filed their tax returns early have already collected some $11-billion from the Internal Revenue Service in tax refunds, which is almost one-third more than the amount returned by this time last year. The refunds have averaged $345 this year compared with $251 a year ago, the IRS says.

The sizable increase this year results from a change in withholding tables last year that did not take full account of the increased personal exemption and from the fact that more and more taxpayers have started itemizing their deductions largely because inflation has carried them into higher tax brackets.

The I.R.S. believes the total amount refunded will reach almost $22-billion this year, about $8-billion more than last year.

Where Will It Go?

What will the great American taxpaying public do with all this money? It is a question that concerns all economists—and businessmen—who try to figure out which way the economy is heading.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Boston recently put the matter this way: "These refunds have not been widely anticipated and hence constitute windfall, not permanent, income changes." The bank figures that at least initially about 60 per cent of the taxpayers receiving refunds will save the money.

An informal survey by The New York Times in various parts of the country finds, however, that consumers seem more inclined to spend the money, generally on basics.

Housing Plans

Linda and Gene Bussell, of Denver, Colo., plan to use their $900 refund to add a new bedroom to their half of a duplex house that they own. Charles Richie, a Denver painter whose wife also works, expects a $980 refund on their joint family income of $17,000. "We want to

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said.

For Peter Placido, of Pittsfield, Mass., a bank will be only a temporary resting place for his $800 refund. He owes more than $2,000 for his wife's recent illness.

Thomas W. Bleezarde, of Williamstown, Mass., editor of

Continued on Page 60, Column 4

Early Tax Filers Now Spending Refunds on 'Basics' and Debts

Continued From Page 59

the Williams College alumni publications, with a salary in the $10,000-$15,000 range, has another basic need in mind. His expected refund of about $200 will be applied to his and his wife's automobile insurance premium.

"No-fault insurance cut our premium here in Massachusetts but not enough," Mr. Bleezarde says. "It still costs too much for it all to come out of our routine budget."

Paying the Taxes

Herrick S. Roth, president of the Colorado AFL-CIO expects a refund of about $550 this year, the largest he can remember ever receiving, on his salary of about $18,000. "I'm going to use the money to pay my property taxes. With my state income tax refunds, I'll only be about $50 short of having enough to pay property taxes," he said.

John McGowen, of Lanesborough, Mass., a General Electric Company manager with an income of about $20,000, reports that he plans to use a refund of about $850 to help pay the cost of two mobile homes he recently bought for a married son and daughter.

In Kansas City, Mo., truck driver Jay Johnson, who earned $10,000 last year, has a plan for spending his $322 refund. "We are going to use it to buy a color television set. We started to get one last Christmas but decided to wait for the refund to avoid carrying charges."

Sounding like many of his fellow citizens, he observed, "If we had gotten the money in my weekly checks spread out over the year, it would have slipped away from us. This way we can get the TV set and not make any payments."

Robert Ulrich, city information officer for San Jose, Cal., and his working wife, Beverly, are counting on a $1,200 refund on their joint income of $23,000 last year. They plan to use the money to complete payments on a 1971 automobile.

For the Walter Yezewskis of West Springfield, Mass., their $400 refund is already a memory—and a good one.

"We spent it on a weekend in Newport, R. I., as our second honeymoon," says Mrs. Yezewski. "First time we've been away alone together without the kids in 20 years." Her husband, who has an income in the $15,000-$20,000 range works for the United States Envelope Corporation as an accountant.

Ray Montoya, who has been out of college only four years, was surprised to get any refund, and even more surprised that it came to as much as $130. "I couldn't believe it at first," he exclaimed.

Mr. Montoya reports about $1,000 income each year from the Colorado State National Guard, on top of his $8,000 salary as an investigator for the Colorado Civil Rights Commission. "I double checked my figures to be sure," he commented. Now that he is sure he plans to spend the money on clothes.

The Savers Comment

Elizabeth L. Dennis, a librarian in Lee, Mass., "went right out and bought myself a new mattress and box spring."

While the Times's survey turned up more spenders than savers, there was a good sprinkling of the cautious.

Roy Fischer, of Los Gatos, Cal., who works for an antique wholesale firm and earned about $7,000 last year plans to put his anticipated refund of $250 in the bank "as a cushion."

In Kansas City, Lawrence Guillot, associate director of the Vista Training Center who describes himself as "middle income," plans to use his $800 refund "to replenish our savings account."

"We have really been feeling inflation this year," he added. "We also bought a home in 1972 which drained our capital. I'm infuriated that the tax rate was too high last year. The I.R.S. should have made an immediate adjustment in the withholding rate."

Bankers around the country indicated that the refund money has had little impact on savings accounts so far.

Cash or Check

Barbara Pendleton, a vice president of the Grand Avenue Bank in Kansas City, commented: "I can't say we have noticed any drastic changes in deposits. People with small refunds seem to be either cashing them or putting them in checking accounts to meet bills."

Her bank is the only one in Crown Center, an urban development in Kansas City where about 6,000 persons work.

At branches of the Wells Fargo Bank and the Bank of America in San Jose, Cal., officers reported no evidence of a rise in deposits attributable to the refund checks, a further indication that consumers hurt by inflation are spending the money.

Kenneth C. Landall, a vice president of City Savings Bank in Pittsfield, Mass., and D. C. Carroll, assistant vice pesident of Union Federal Savings, in the same city, reported the same.

Richard E. Sitzer, president of the Lee Savings Bank, in Lee, Mass., guesses that about 25 per cent of those with refund checks are putting them in savings accounts and the other 75 per cent are spending the money.

Locally, Robert Pierson, marketing director for the Bowery Savings Bank, said, the New York banks are seeing little of the tax refund money.

In fact, he points out that the savings banks are experiencing an outflow of dollars because many large depositors are investing in short-term government obligations and certificates of deposit yielding up to 7 per cent and more.

As for Mr. Pierson himself, he plans to put one-half of a $2,000 expected refund in savings and the other into storm windows, a new kitchen floor, and some work on his oak trees.

VETERAN FIRE FIGHTER DIES OF HEART TROUBLE

Thomas H. Hayden, Chief of the Lee Department, Passes Away After Few Hours' Illness—Had Been In Somewhat Delicate Health for Some Time.

Was Member of Lee Department for 55 Years and for Over 56 Years in the Employ of the Smith Paper Company — Given Loving Cup by Company Last Year.

Thomas H. Hayden, 69 years of age, died at his home on Center street in Lee at 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon after a severe illness for only a few hours with heart trouble.He had been in poor health for some months.

He was one of Lee's best liked and known residents. His reputation as a fire fighter and chief of the Lee fire department and as a member of the Pittsfield Veteran firemen association had given him an enviable name at home and abroad. In politics, he was a democrat and he was a member of St. Mary's church. His last public service was given lovingly to the town as chairman of the buidling committee of the new fire egine house, a monument to Chief Hayden, for he it was that year in and year out without discouragement and in a winning way, plead for a suitable home for his fire fighters, and the splendid marble firehouse on Main street is justly his monument as an officer of the fire district and chief of the department.

GIVEN LOVING CUP.

May 1 last year, Mr. Hayden celebrated two important anniversaries. May 1, 1911, marked the 56th anniversary of his entering the employ of the Smith Paper company, or their predecessors, Platner & Smith, and on May 6, 1911, he had been a member of the Lee fire department for 56 years. On his 56th anniversary, the Smith Paper company presented him with a loving cup inscribed as follows:—

"Presented to Thomas H. Hayden, May 1, 1911, in token of our appreciation of fifty-six years in our employ, Smith Paper Company, Lee, Mass."

Mr. Hayden possessed rare knowledge gained first hand of the history of paper making in Lee.

He had been a member of the Lee fire department from the days of the crude hand engine to the present day auto fire truck and chemical engine. His was a life well lived and rounded out, gifted with kindness, mechanical ingenuity and appreciation and thoughtfulness for his neighbor and the men under him. He was faithful to his trust and he possessed personal magnetism to a marked degree and its accompanying supporter, dignity. Three other anniversaries of a public nature are linked with the name of Thomas Hayden, October 6, was the 56th anniversary of the dedication and occupancy of the first fire house in Lee and the receiving of the old Water Witch engine and the organizing of the company and the 56th anniversary of the organization of the Forest Engine company, to which Mr. Hayden gave time and thought at that time. For 10 years Mr. Hayden had been agitating the building of a new engine house to house the apparatus and to furnish better quarters for the fire fighters, and during the past year his splendid efforts have been crowned with a rich success in the new marble engine house he lived to see completed but not dedicated

SKETCH OF HIS CAREER

Thomas H. Hayden was born in Ireland on August 1, 1842 and came to this country with his parents when he was a small boy and settled in Lenox Dale, then known as Lenox Furnace. Soon after their arrival and when Thomas was about 10 years old, the big coal sheds of the Furnace company caught fire. Word was sent to Lee for help and the "Cataract" engine with "Joe" Scofield and 10 men was rushed to the rescue. The "Cataract" was a dinky tub machine of the crudest pattern into which water was poured from pails and was thrown on the fire through a two inch hose. The coal shed was where the trolley line now crosses the river, and the bank was too steep to get down to the water, so a line of men passed the buckets of water up the grade and a line of boys passed the empty pails back. Young Hayden was pressed into service in the latter line. He owned to the fact that he was in mortal fear of those fierce fire fighters from Lee, but was greatly interested in the machine and examined it minutely. Here he awoke to his natural mechanical gift and began the study of machinery.

The Hayden family moved to Lee soon after this incident and in a few weeks came his second encounter with fire, which Mr. Hayden told with considerable amusement.The business building at the corner of Main and School streets containing three stores and several sh , caught fire. A line of big hose was laid from the Eagle mill but fell short some 200 feet. The "Cataract" was brought out and stationed close to the fire, its 300 feet of hose coiled in the road and men began carrying water from the end of the Eagle hose to the machine, while Hayden was again mustered into the empty bucket brigade. He figured that the "Cataract" could be moved down to the end of the big hose and save the carrying and as she was playing through 300 feet of small hose some could be taken off but the firemen had no time to listen to a bashful boy and they carried water and squirted, and the building burned and Thomas went home disgusted. No entry concerning this "Cataract' company is found in Lee histories or "Joe" Scofield and his gallant company of 10, yet it is claimed that they often did good work at fires.

Mr. Hayden's father died when Thomas was 11 years old, leaving a family of nine children, and on May 1, 1853, he entered the employ of Platner & Smith, who conducted a woolen mill previous to their venture in paper. In 1860 Mr. Hayden entered the machine shop and in 1878 became master mechanic, succeeding Daniel Pultz, whose right-hand man he had been for some years. For 33 years he had sole control of all building operations for the Smith Paper company, during which time the mills have been rebuilt and several times refitted with new machinery. In the mechanical line Mr. Hayden was known throughout the paper trade as a man of most remarkable ability and foresight, and has often been asked for opinions by manufacturers throughout the country.

Referring to the records of the old Water Witch company we find that Mr. Hayden was not a member of the original company. That honor was reserved for the leading men of the town, and his age was hardly sufficient, but he "always ran with the machine" and was admitted to membership as soon as they would accept him. For 35 years he was first assistant under F. S. Cross, Thomas A. Oman, Wellington Smith, William A. Stone, F. M. Pease, George Markham, Thomas Norton, John Craughwell and Capt. A. V. Shannon. Under all these chiefs he had full charge of the mechanical part and in reality was acting and working chief.Ten years ago he was elected chief and held that position to the present time.

There were 101 members in the original company of which only two are still with us; Frank K. Hinckley and Joseph C. Chaffee. Their names and also that of R. B. Cheney of Housatonic street, appear on the original subscription paper for the purchase of the Water Witch. The late Horace Taylor who became famous in New York as a funmaker, was a member of the original company, F. K. Hinckley was among the men that took the old machine from the cars when it arrived in Lee. The name was given by Mrs. Agnes W. Brown, who was one of the heavy subscribers. After the machine was received and housed and a lot of new members taken in and good service had been done at a number of fires and everything was just right there came the big fire of 1857 that wiped out the town. Mr. Hayden's recollection of this fire of the Housatonic and Columbia mill fires and the big loss of 1877 were interesting with many working incidents. He also recalled the muster in Springfield, October 20, 1864, when there were 11 hand engines in competition and the Water Witch captured the $50 prize and got into a dispute with the Bay State company of Westfield over results. On the road home it was necessary to side track for a time and some of the Westfield boys placed big stones beneath the car on which was the Water Witch in an effort to derail the car and stall the company there. In this they failed but the fight was pulled off just the same with

Mr. Hayden was united in marriage with Miss Magdallen Stumpf November 25, 1870. Besides his widow, he is survived by four daughters Miss Katherine E. Hayden of Lee, Miss Nellie M. Hayden of New York city, Miss Mary G. Hayden and Miss Agnes P. Hayden of Lee and five sons, John of Bridgeport, Conn., Robert H. Hayden, Francis H. Hayden, Joseph Hayden and William J. Hayden, all of Lee and three sisters, Mrs. George Jessup of Lenox Dale, Mrs. Agnes Wrinkle of Dalton and Mrs. Elisabeth Frost of Holyoke.

The funeral will be held tomorrow

May 11, 1912

Springfield Union

THE DEAD CHIEF.

The town of Lee paused for a season yesterday to pay a last tribute to her dead chief. No such demonstration of mourning—no such popular outpouring of affection—has ever marked the busy life of the village. It is an achievement so to live a life that when it is ended all those whom it touched as they did their daily tasks feel that they have lost a friend.

Tom Hayden was a pupil in the old school of courtly gentlemen. He represented a type all too rare in an hour when the exactions of business and the mad whirl of commercial life are apt to dull the edge of finer things in complex and complicated human nature. Tom was big and broad—neither narrowness of thought nor creed nor sympathy chilled him. During every hour of his useful life he was a firm believer in the universal bothehood of man. He had a duty to do in this world and he did it—and this alone places a crown of the world's approval upon his knightly brow.

To win the regard of one's fellows; to do with brave heart and steady head the work one finds to do; to discharge "with loyal heart and the purest hands all earthly trusts;" to keep the company of one's self respect—these are the sum and goal of sentient things.

Lee loved Tom Hayden living and it mourns today with him beneath the sod.

FIRE CHIEF'S FUNERAL.

Longest Procession Ever Held in Lee Pays Tribute to Thomas H. Hayden.

The funeral of Thomas H. Hayden was held from St. Mary's church this morning at 9 o'clock. Rev. James Prendergast conducted the services and celebrated a solemn requiem high mass, with Rev. Prendergast as celebrant, Rev. John A. Fitzgerald was deacon, and Rev. Joseph Martin of Pittsfield as sub-deacon. Miss Elizabeth Narey presided at the organ, and Mrs. James Carty sang "Calvary." There were many flowers, the set pieces including: Water Witch, gates ajar; Lenox Dale Hose company, a pillow; employes of the Eagle mill, a pillow with the words "At Rest;" Emerald Hose company, a pillow; employes of J. P. Quigley, a wreath; employes of machine shop, a cross; Knights of Columbus, a wreath; employes of Valley mill, a cross; Smith Paper company, a wreath; the Veteran firemen of Pittsfield, a wreath; the Lenox fire department, a wreath, with the word "Chief;" the Independent Hose company, a wreath, Centennial mill, a wreath; the Vigilant Hose company, an anchor; the Reliance Hook and Ladder company, a wreath.

The procession was one of the longest ever seen in Lee, and it was headed by the Lee band, followed by the veteran firemen, the Water Witch Fire company, the Independent Hose company, the Emerald Hose company, Lenox fire department, Stockbridge fire department, Great Barrington fire department, the prudential committee of the fire district, the board of selectmen, and other fire district and town officials in carriages.

The bearers were fellow employes of Mr. Hayden: Peter J. Tyer, C. N. Mooney, Edward Driscoll, Edward Gibbons, James Carty, John Carraher. Burial was in St. Mary's cemetery.

Among those from out of town who attended the funeral were: Mr. and Mrs. John Wrinkle and family of Dalton; Mrs. Eliza Frost, Miss Mary Carrol, Mr. and Mrs. James Moran of Holyoke, Joseph Sear and Miss Stella Brice of Danbury, Conn., Mrs. Julia Stumpf of New Haven, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stumpf of New Haven, Joseph Stumpf of Boston, Mrs. W. Veatty of Boston, Fred Stumpf of Boston, Mrs. Clara Pierson of Millerton, N. Y.

The Lee engine house was draped in black and Smith Paper company's mills, shops and offices were closed during the services. The flags were at half mast on all of the Smith Paper company's mills and the places of business were generally closed.

The veteran firemen present from Pittsfield were: Dr. W. J. Mercer, S. S. Levy, P. H. Burke, Thomas Malloy, F. W. Sager, Frank J. Boland, William Jones, W. C. Howland and Chief W. C. [illegible].

HOMAS H. HAYDEN.

A TRIBUTE

To the Late Thomas H. Hayden of Lee.

In the death of Chief Hayden, Lee has lost one of its most efficient fire fighters.

A brave, efficient officer whose devotion and fidelity to the duties imposed upon him, won for him deserved and the admiration and esteem of the firemen and citizens of Lee.

His heroism and judgment were always of the highest order, and when an emergency arose he was one of the first [illegible] heed to those who might be in need of his services.

As an eyewitness to some of the fires that occurred in Lee, I wish to testify to the extraordinary courage and devotion [illegible] by the Chief and the members of his department, who so undauntedly faced their difficult tasks regardless of their own self preservation.

As a fire-fighter Chief Hayden proved himself worthy to be ranked among the fire chiefs of the larger cities, and one who the firemen and citizens of Lee may always well be proud of.

Jos. A. Fenwick.

Retired member of the New York Fire Dept.

#100

Jonathan Lovell

THEY CAME BACK — Seven of the 22 members of Lee High School's Class of 1923 celebrated the 50th anniversary of their graduation last Saturday at the Red Lion Inn. Those who returned, some with spouses, for an informal luncheon were (seated, left to right,) Mrs. Elsie Broga Costello, Marie Shultis, Dennis Hayes, Mrs. Dennis Hayes, Mrs. Gladys Hayes, Mrs. Eileen Kelly and Mrs. Leon Nettleton; (standing) Mrs. Clara Langdon La Rock, Dr. Louis Stanton, Mrs. Charlotte Noonan Stanton, Mrs. Warren Turner, Warren Turner, Frank J. Kelly, Leon Nettleton, Virgil Stewart and Laurence La Rock.

7 Members of Lee High '23 Celebrate 50th Reunion

LEE — Seven members of the Lee High School class of 1923, including three of its four officers, were present last Saturday to observe the 50th anniversary of their graduation with an informal luncheon at the Red Lion Inn in Stockbridge. Sixteen members, husbands, wives and others associated with the class attended.

Classmates who attended were Mrs. Elsie Broga Costello of Lee, valedictorian and secretary; Dennis Hayes of Jackson Heights, N.Y., treasurer; Mrs. Laurence LaRock of Windsor, Mass., formerly Clara Langdon; Leon D. Nettleton of Pleasantville, N.Y., a summer resident of West Stockbridge; Mrs. Louis Stanton of Brewster, N.Y., formerly Charlotte Noonan; Marie Shultis of Lee, vice president and historian; and Virgil Stewart of Springfield.

At the luncheon, copies of a souvenir portfolio on the 1923 school and class facts were distributed. It was suggested that the class hold its next reunion in five years.

8/9/73

Joel Librizzi

BRYANT HOMESTEAD in Cummington was scene yesterday of a visit by the standing committee of Trustees of Reservations, owner of the property. Donald Abbott Jr., right center, director of the Trustees, is shown addressing committee members and others. The homestead, at left, has undergone restoration.

20— The Berkshire Eagle, Saturday, Aug. 18, 1973

State tax board to hear Friendship House bid

Assessors oppose exempt status

By James E. Overmyer

GREAT BARRINGTON — Disagreement over whether a non-profit organization with idealistic purposes should pay property taxes, often a touchy subject with officials on the local level, has surrounded the Albert Schweitzer Friendship House here.

The Friendship House maintains a center on Hurlburt Road dedicated to the philosophies of the late humanitarian.

In the next few weeks its officers will go into a more mundane realm, the state Appellate Tax Board, to seek a tax-exempt status denied locally for the past three years.

Assessors balk

The town Assessors have refused for those years to rule on the foundation's applications. Chairman Robert G. Guidi warns the town may already have too many organizations not paying taxes.

But paying more than $2,000 a year in real estate taxes would severely curtail the Friendship House's activities, according to Mrs. Erica Anderson, the place's founder and president. The house has a museum, a library and a lecture hall.

The weekly newspaper here, the Berkshire Courier, said this week the Friendship House would be seized for nonpayment of taxes by Sept. 7. Officials for both the town and foundation, however, say this is not likely.

A state tax board test of the issue was already planned, they say.

Atty. Robert J. Donelan, handling the foundation's appeal, says the group will pay $2,160.90 it owes in 1971 taxes to give it legal grounds to seek return of that money and future exemptions.

Deeded in 1959

The Friendship House, formerly a barn on Mrs. Anderson's 40-acre property, was deeded to the foundation in late 1969, along with an acre of land.

The foundation filed its first request for tax exemption in 1971, based upon its tax bill from the previous year.

The assessors let that request and the two which followed go 90 days without a ruling, an action amounting to denial.

Guidi says he has no doubt that Dr. Schweitzer, who died in 1965, was an outstanding individual.

"But then, so were a lot of other people," he observes, "and whether you can get someone to pick up their cross is something else again. Albert Schweitzer in his way was a great humanitarian, but a lot of people could care less."

"Remember, tax exemption is an outright grant; you're asking the rest of the town to pick up the burden of taxation," he said.

And as for the requirement that a tax exempt property benefit the general public, Guidi says he's "not too happy about some others here getting exemptions."

Atty. William P. Murtagh, a director of Friendship House, says the case is going to the Appellate Tax Board because it is "a gray area; its not a school, a church or a hospital."

Mrs. Anderson, who worked with Dr. Schweitzer on his medical mission to Africa for 17 years, says that preserving the doctor's work and thought are important. It would be "both ironic and unjust" for the town, which has its reputation enhanced by the Friendship House, to "fail to acknowledge its value," she says.

60,000 visitors

She says that more than 60,000 people have visited the center since she opened it in 1956.

The house offers an extensive collection of books both by and about Dr. Schweitzer, and it has four films on his life and works. Among Schweitzer memorabilia is an as yet undisplayed collection of his papers and letters.

Directors of the house include Dr Schweitzer's daughter, Rhena Schweitzer Miller of Atlanta, and Norman Cousins, publisher of Saturday Review/World magazine, as well as a number of prominent local persons.

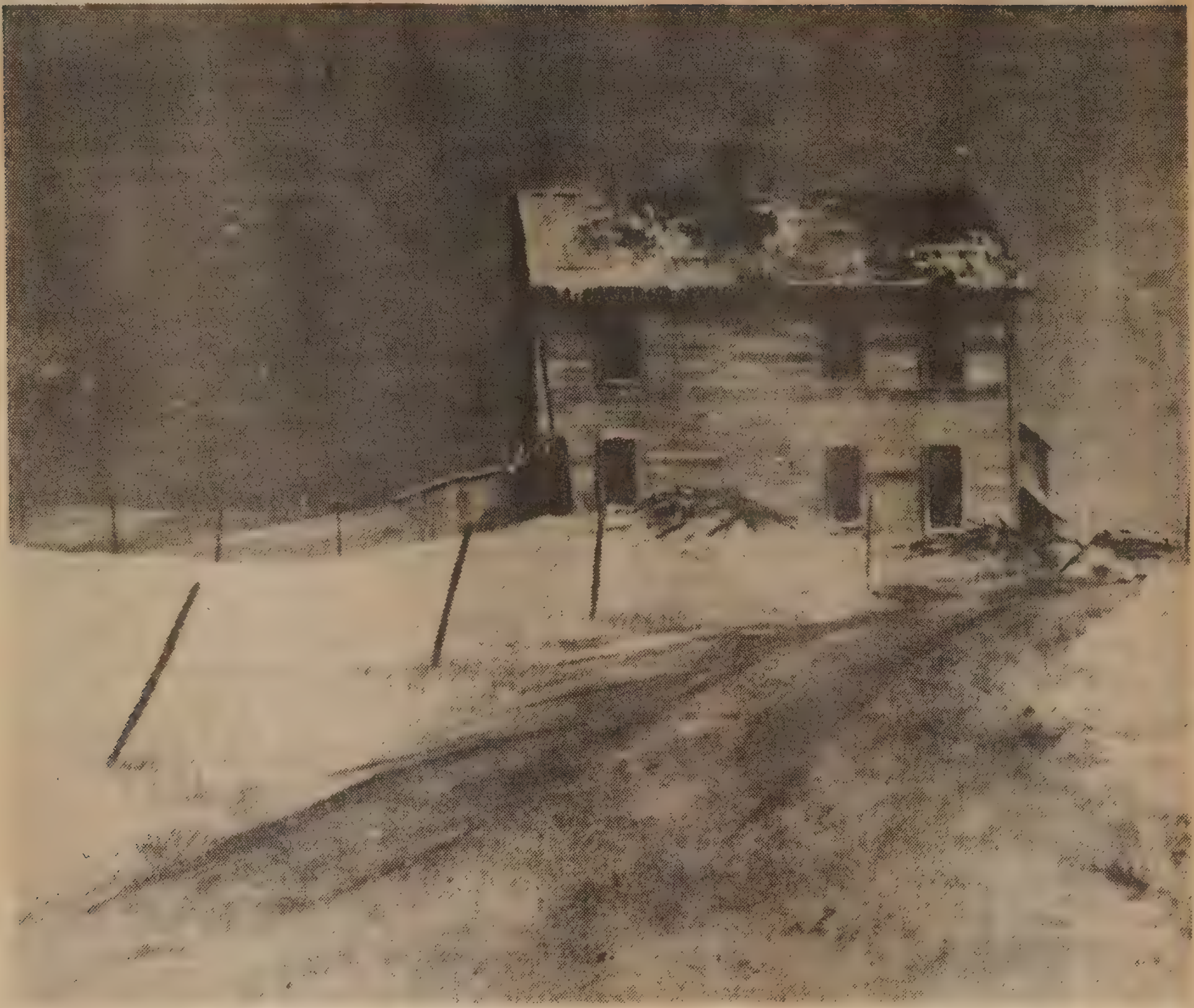
According to Mrs. Anderson, the foundation is supported by private donations alone, which at this time do not even allow the hiring of secretarial help.

Atty. Murtagh observes, not entirely in jest, that publicity over the tax exemption, "might increase the donations."

But Mrs. Anderson believes all the money should go toward promoting Dr. Schweitzer's philosophies: "Sometimes we have a group of children go through here, and a little fist might put 20 cents in the box. Not one cent of that ought to go to pay taxes."

Albert Schweitzer Friendship House, over which tax exemption battle is being fought

Mrs. Anderson at wildlife preserve.



COLD ROAD HOUSE is the title of the above painting by Victor Motterella Jr. of Lompoc, Calif., formerly of Lee. The artist has achieved great success on the West Coast with paintings of Berkshire scenes. Pictured is a house on Algerie Road, East Otis, belonging to John Bondarenko.

Berkshire scenes make hit in California

LEE — Victor Motterella Jr., formerly of Lee and now of Lompoc, Calif., has created a sensation with a display of his watercolors at a one-man show in Solvang, Calif.

The 21-year-old Lee native is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. George T. O'Neill and of Mr and Mrs. Dominic Motterella, all of Prospect Street.

The young Motterella moved to California several years ago with his parents, graduated from Lompoc High School and enrolled at the University of California in San Diego as a business major.

Not satisfied with his business vocation, he switched to art at the Alan Hancock College in Santa Maria after one year at San Diego. From there his rise has been swift and, according to his instructors, well deserved.

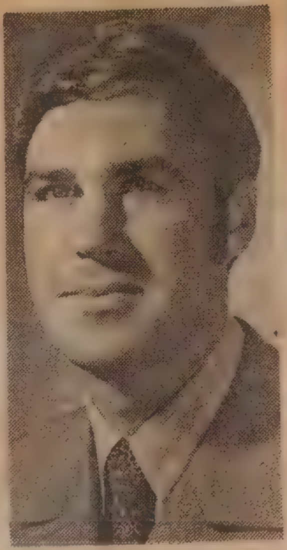
Rights purchased

His paintings, currently displayed at the Copenhagen Gallery of Solvang, have been selling well at around $1,500 each; and the New York firm of Donald Art, Inc., has purchased reproduction rights of the young artist's work.

An article in a California newspaper described Motterella's work as an attempt to "preserve on canvas rural America, its dilapidated houses and barns, weeded fields, lovely old trees and dusty cellars." He travels to the Berkshires at least once a year to paint scenes in Tyringham, Otis, Lee and several other towns.

Motterella and his wife, Carol, last year were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Rockwell at their Stockbridge home.

Philadelphian Appointed Shaker Village Curator



Joel Librizzi

John H. Ott

John H. Ott, a Philadelphian, has been named curator of Hancock Shaker Village, according to an announcement by Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller, president of Shaker Community, Inc.

Ott, 26, was born in Ottawa and raised in Philadelphia, where his father is an Episcopal clergyman. After attending the Philadelphia public schools, he entered Eastern Baptist College in St. David's, Pa., where he received his B.A. degree in 1966.

The following year, Ott enrolled in the American Museum Training Program at Cooperstown, N. Y., where he finished his course work in 1967. Upon completion of his dissertation, he will receive his M.A. degree from the State University of New York at Oneonta, which administers the program in conjunction with the New York State Historical Association.

For the past year, Ott has been serving as an Army engineering maintenance officer with the 29th General Support Group in Long Binh, Vietnam, after prior service at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland, and Cumberland Army Depot in Pennsylvania. He holds the rank of first lieutenant in the U. S. Army Reserve.

Immediate Job

Ott sees his new appointment as a challenge for a young curator. "The Village has a great potential," he said. "I want to strive for a high level of professionalism to earn accreditation by the American Association of Museums. My immediate job will be to get the collections into top shape, and realign the exhibits to better interpret the Shaker culture by giving people more of the feel, and even the smells, of the Shaker life. The Village can't just be a museum, it needs to reflect the lively character and innovative spirit of the Shakers."

A bachelor, Ott will live in the curator's quarters in the brick dwelling on the Village grounds.

Name in the News

Nurse who teaches

Lawrence S. Burns

Miss Tristany: Knew all but five.

LEE

The new director of St. Luke's School of Nursing, Berkshire Medical Center, answers her own phone. She sits in on policy making for the Lee school system. She is an advocate of traffic lights and sewer lines. Occasionally, she serves drinks in her brother's bar. Her far reaching influence in Lee has earned her the title of "the fourth Selectman" among her friends, though she has never held that office and has expressed no intent of seeking it.

Miss Marguerite Tristany, 51, of Main Street is on the Lee School Committee, is a town meeting representative and a past chairman of the local Red Cross and American Cancer Society. Her appointment last week as director of the St. Luke's School will last one year, after which the school will be closed as an economy move on the part of the Berkshire Medical Center.

She began at the former St. Luke's Hospital as a nurse in 1944, became a clinical instructor at the nursing school in 1947, was named assistant director in 1964, and was appointed associate director in 1970. An honors graduate of Lee High School, the Lee native studied basic nursing at St. Luke's, took graduate courses in nursing education at Boston University, and is now completing her master's degree work at North Adams State College.

* * * *

Miss Tristany says her parents, the late Michael and Filomena Tristany, instilled in her a love for hard, diligent work, and community volvement. Michael, who emigrated from Italy at age 20, was penniless when he arrived in New York. Via a circuitous route, he became a wood cutter in the Beartown State Forest.

With an investment of $290, he started a retail food store on Main Street here that 20 years later was grossing $200,000 annually.

But with financial success, Marguerite shared in her parents' sorrow—of her 16 brothers and sisters, only four lived beyond the age of 30. After that, a career in medicine seemed inevitable.

Since she started at St. Luke's, she has been a class adviser several times, and is a past president of the school's alumnae association. Since average class enrollments were 40 students, she estimates she has helped to train more than 1,000 nurses in the 26 years she has been with the school.

Her deep interest in the students was indicated a few years ago at an alumnae banquet when of the more than 500 persons who came, she knew all but five by name.

* * * *

Miss Tristany's interest in local government runs just as deep. It started as a teen-ager when local politicos met in her father's bar for talks over a drink. She attends most of the town's public hearings, votes at all the town meetings and hasn't missed a School Committee meeting in more than a year. She is the only career educator on the six-person board.

She also teaches high school Confraternity of Christian Doctrine classes at St. Mary's Church, and is a member of the St. Mary's-St. Martha's Sodality.

The Main Street family restaurant and bar, which she helps tend occasionally, is run by her brother Mario. The family, with brother and sister, nieces and nephews, remains together.

* * * *

Miss Tristany has "mixed feelings" about the closing of St. Luke's school, which was charging a total of only $2,400 for three years of tuition, room and board and supplies.

"We have a great program," she said, "one that has been nationally accredited since 1959. But we were losing too much money, and we had no choice, really, except to close the school."

Local students who would have gone to St. Luke's are being referred to schools in Springfield and Worcester; BCC's two-year R.N. program is reported full and won't be able to handle the extra students.

She looks forward to running St. Luke's school next year, and isn't worried about what she will do when her job ends.

"After all," she quipped, "I can still take a temperature."

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3/1/74

Lee plan board completes new zoning bylaws proposal

LEE — Emphasizing that nothing contained in it was "sworn in blood," the Planning Board finished work on the draft of its new zoning bylaw proposal last night.

An earlier revision failed to win town approval last August when it fell six votes shy of a necessary two-thirds majority at a special town meeting.

Board Chairman Jon Larson thinks the key reason for that defeat was the board's failure to give town residents enough opportunity to talk about the proposed revision, and he has planned a series of measures to correct that failure.

Asks suggestions

Uppermost in his plans is emphasis on the as yet unfinished nature of the draft. "We're not telling people that this is the way the thing is going to be," Larson says. "We want residents to tell us where they think changes are needed, to suggest changes to us, before the bylaw is placed on the town meeting warrant."

To get those suggestions, the board wants to hold hearings on the draft in each of the town's six political districts. The hearings are scheduled for February and March, well ahead of the May town meeting.

Additionally, the board will include in the printed bylaw proposal a map of the town showing the new zoning districts. The board prepared a map last year, but the few copies it had reproduced were posted only in public places like the post office and the Town Hall. Residents complained that they didn't know where the districts would be.

To be distributed

Larson said that 300 copies of the printed proposal, with the map included, would be available to residents by Feb. 7.

The bylaw has received careful scrutiny since its defeat last year. Charles Kusik, a consultant to the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, went through it with the board last fall and later gave board members two revisions.

More revisions were proposed by Community Planning Services, a Boston consulting firm. The board accepted some, and rejected others.

Central to both revisions — the one defeated last August and the one proposed for acceptance this May — is a question that is becoming increasingly difficult to answer:

How can Lee permit new housing that is cheap enough for its growing population — and its children — to afford, yet is attractive and substantial enough not to mar the land?

Planning Board members hope to find an answer by May.

12—The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, Aug. 7, 1973

Lee planners alter proposed zoning map

By Lawrence S. Burns

LEE — The Planning Board last night approved nine changes in the map accompanying the proposed zoning bylaws. The changes will be explained by the board at the "baby town meeting" Thursday at 7:30 in the Lee High School cafetorium.

Three of the changes were announced last week: The minimum lot size in the proposed conservation-residential district was reduced from five to three acres; most of East Lee will be kept residential; and most of the proposed industrial zone off Bradley and East streets from Golden Hill Road to Woods Pond will be kept residential.

Most of the changes approved last night were said to be corrections of mistakes made in the drawing of the zoning maps. The other changes were:

—From conservation-residential to residential, land owned by Chester Wezevitz off Laurel Street for a distance of 700 feet east of the street. The five-acre parcel is south of Golden Hill Road and lies between the Golden Hill Town Forest and Laurel Street.

—From industrial to residential, land between Columbia and Greylock streets within 2,000 feet of East Center Street.

—From 8 to 6, the number of apartment units per acre that could be built in the proposed residential-multiple dwelling district off Laurel Street; and from 250 to 150 feet, the distance from the center of Laurel Street that apartments could be built.

—From rural-business to agricultural-residential, land off Laurel Street from a point 150 feet south of Laurel Lake Road north to the Lenox line.

—From residential to business-multiple dwelling, the block bordered by Park, High, Franklin and Orchard streets.

An additional change was to include "tree farms" as a permitted use in agricultural-residential districts.

The Planning Board also agreed to support Mrs. J. H. McAllister should she request the Zoning Board of Appeals to change the southeast corner of Marble and West Park streets from residential to business.

Planning Board Chairman Francis D. Foley Jr. said Town Counsel Henry M. Donahoe had advised that if that zone were altered without a hearing, it could invalidate the rest of the zoning provisions. Only minor changes or acknowledgement of errors in drafting maps can be made without holding further hearings.

Foley said the changes that have been made to date do not require a second hearing because none of them are substantial enough to warrant it.

Board member William B. Navin complained that by keeping Laurel Street zoned residential-multiple dwelling, the board is ignoring the wishes of the 67 persons who last week signed a petition calling for exclusion of apartment construction there.

Foley replied that to change that zone any further would require a hearing. And there isn't time for that prior to the special town meeting next week, he said.

Foley also said construction of apartments on Laurel Street would not interest developers because of the low number of units per acre allowed there and because builders would face high costs of adding sewerage.

The sewer line on the east side of the street is a small, private line that couldn't be used for apartments. The line being added to the west side of the street is expected to be under maximum use after it is installed, and apartment builders would have to expand it.

Foley said the board has been advised that the state requires land to be made available for multiple dwellings and that the bylaw might be rejected by the state attorney general if it did not allow for a minimum of apartment construction. Thus, the Laurel Street land has been zoned to make apartment construction possible but unprofitable because of the sewer and density regulations.

Cameras, Film, flash cubes. Lee News Room.—Adv.

Chubbies have arrived at the Children's Village for back to school. Park St.—Adv.

End of season sale 30 per cent off all summer wear continuing this week. Sidewalk sale August 11th. Dee's Dept. Store, Walker St., Lenox, Mass.—Adv.

cont' to the left

Lee Nursing Home Has New Owners

LEE — Arthur and Pamela Ivey, a Monterey couple who recently purchased the Lee Nursing Home from Abraham J. Levinsky, have changed the name of the 73-bed facility to Berkshire Hills North. The Iveys also operate a nursing home in Monterey under the name of Berkshire Hills Nursing Home.

The nursing home on Prospect Street was built in 1965. The new owners purchased the home and about three acres of land from Mr. Levinsky for $527,644.

In a related matter, George W. Jervas, administrator of the Lee facility, this week announced expanded medical programs and services at the home.

Mr. Jervas said the staff now includes a director of nursing service, a consulting physician, a full-time social worker and recreational therapist, as well as a consulting staff that includes a dietcian, occupational, speech and physical therapists, and social service workers.

Mr. Jervas said Berkshire Hills North is a skilled-care facility offering supervised medical programs.

Courier 11.13.75

Rental Assist Program Begins In Lee

LEE — The Housing Authority announced this week that all four units of the four-family house on Laurel Street it purchased last month have been rented, as part of a rental-assistance program in conjunction with the state Department of Community Affairs.

Authority Chairman Frank P. Consolati said that all tenants, which include a single woman, and families of two, three, and five, qualify under the DCA's low-income requirements. Two of the families previously living in the structure qualified for the program, while of the other two, one family is from South Lee and another from Lee.

The house was purchased in mid-October from Andrea Nolan of Lee and Mike Cardegno of Otis.

Consolati said that besides being able to provide rental assistance to low-income residents of Lee, the Authority, by purchasing the house, hoped to bolster its case with the DCA. For almost a year, the Authority has been seeking funds to build a 60-unit addition to Brown Memorial Court, its 48-unit housing-for-the-elderly complex on Marble Street completed two years ago

Consolati said, however, the DCA has informed him no funds will be available until June of next year, and that even then, Lee's chances were marginal, inasmuch as the town already has 48 units, and many towns have none.

"We've got a waiting list of over 60," Consolati noted this week. "We've trying to impress the DCA that there is a need for more low income and housing-for-the-elderly in Lee."

Lee, Lenox, Stockbridge hiring new sanitarian soon

By Helen Donovan

LENOX — The boards of health of Lee, Lenox and Stockbridge hope to hire a new tri-town sanitarian within a month, according to Dr Charles W. Stratton of the Lee board.

Dr. Stratton, unofficial chairman of the group, said the three boards will interview four candidates for the position at a meeting Wednesday at 7:30 at the Town Hall here.

Vacation Dec. 1

Paul A. Morse of Lee, who has held the job for 43 years, will go on vacation Dec. 1 and will not return to the position, said Dr. Stratton Morse will reach 70, the compulsory age of retirement for town employes, next spring

Dr. Stratton said that the boards hoped to have the new sanitarian on hand for at least a month before Morse's vacation

Salary range for the job is $10,000 to $14,000, and pay will depend on the successor's qualifications, board members said Morse is reportedly paid near the high end of that range.

The sanitarian's salary is paid monthly by the three towns and is in proportion to their populations. Expenses, Dr. Stratton said, are also proportioned by population and are paid by the three towns together regardless of where tests are performed or other expenses are incurred.

Dr. Stratton listed the sanitarian's duties as performing milk and water tests, restaurant inspections and inspections of any other establishments where food is handled. That duty, Dr. Stratton said, includes inspection of establishments such as delicatessens or supermarkets and public school cafeterias.

The sanitarian also performs percolation tests to determine the suitability of soil for septic systems, and inspections of the systems after installation

The boards are looking for someone with experience in performing those tests, Dr. Stratton said. He added that many schools, including a number of community colleges in Massachusetts, offer environmental studies and courses in public health, and that such training would be helpful in the job.

Of the four candidates, one is a company and three are individuals, Dr. Stratton said. All are from Berkshire County.

He added, though, that applications still are being accepted. Additional applications will be reviewed by the three boards as they are received.

Eagle 9-14-73

The Berkshire Eagle, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 1970—33

George Bagnaschi

Lee

Bagnaschi Kept Busy As New Kiwanis Lt. Gov.

By PADRAIC SPENCE

LEE — Last night Kiwanis Lt. Gov. George Bagnaschi installed officers at the West Springfield club, today at noon he installed the Pittsfield club's officers and tomorrow night he will be in Westfield performing the same function.

In the two weeks since he was elected lieutenant governor at the Kiwanis convention at Hyannis, Bagnaschi has been on the road several nights a week overseeing the programs and functions of the 12 clubs in Division 2 that are under his jurisdiction. The division covers Western Massachusetts and part of Connecticut. He is one of 26 lieutenant governors in the New England district, which encompasses 254 clubs and approximately 11,750 members.

Bagnaschi was chosen by the local Kiwanians as a candidate for the post in late July to replace Francis G. Fanning, who had been nominated at a July caucus but withdrew for reasons of health.

Bagnaschi's primary duty is to help formulate and coordinate programs aimed at improving the quality of the environment, this year's theme of Kiwanis efforts. He oversees such club programs as Operation Drug Alert, which is designed to educate the public on drugs. Many of the clubs will sponsor speakers and movies at schools to familiarize children with the seriousness of drug abuse.

His office also involves the review of monthly attendance and activity reports forwarded from the clubs to New England district headquarters.

Lee has had one previous lieutenant governor, William H. O'Brien of Marble Street, who served in the early 1960s.

Bagnaschi first joined the Pittsfield Kiwanis in 1963. When he moved to Lee, he joined the local club and was president in 1966. He has maintained a perfect attendance record over the seven-year period.

Bagnaschi has been vice president and loan officer of the Lee National Bank since 19[illegible] [illegible] year he is vice president of the Lee United Fund, after [illegible] for the past two years as treasurer. He is also president of the Lee Library Association and a member of the Sportsmen's Club and Evening Star Lodge. He is a former member of the town Finance Committee.

Bagnaschi is married to the former Viola Chittenden of Stephentown, N.Y. They reside on Fairview Street with their four children.

Visit our exciting 2nd floor gift shop. New gifts. Lee News. —Adv. —1

Eagle 10/20/73

Joy Allen

ROOFING the recycling shed in the rain Thursday are Lee Kiwanis Club members, Robert MacFarlane, left, George Bagnaschi, center, and Walter Alter. Lee's first shed will be open for newspapers Nov. 1.

Name in the News

Kiwanian at the peak

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

Bagnaschi: Builds the backbone

It's fortunate George Bagnaschi can say his involvement with Kiwanis Club affairs is his major relaxation.

As the newly-named governor-elect of all 11,200 Kiwanis clubs in 244 districts in six New England states, Bagnaschi may have little time in his two-year reign for more than his "relaxation."

The 40-year-old Fairview Street resident and father of four — who is also worthy patron of the Order of the Eastern Star here, a member of the Melha Temple in Springfield, a member of the Lee Library Association, and vice president and loan officer of the Lee National Bank — will be spending "two or three nights" a week immersed in his duties as the region's top Kiwanian.

An 11-year member of the Lee club, with a perfect attendance record, Bagnaschi speaks with an almost evangelical fervor of his club's accomplishments.

"Kiwanis does the things it does because the town needs them. Wherever there is a need, Kiwanis will be there to help answer it," he says.

Specifically he points to such things as college scholarships, the annual autumn queen contest, sponsorship of junior football and baseball teams, the annual cleanup of the town's Laurel Lake beach and the construction of playgrounds at Bradley Street and Marble Street.

"Kiwanis builds the backbone of the community," he says.

Befitting his pride in Kiwanis and community, Bagnaschi says his top priority as governor will be "to bring greater unity between the district and the local clubs.

"There has not always been good communications ability between the two. I hope we can strengthen Kiwanis on the grass-roots level," Bagnaschi says.

In addition to fortifying the bonds that bind Kiwanians together, Bagnaschi says, he will "carry out the ways of the Kiwanis Club and what the international convention tells us to do under the Kiwanis overall theme of 'We Build.' "

Bagnaschi maintains that, because Kiwanis has been doing things successfully since the early 1900s, there is no need to tinker with the formula.

An example is Bagnaschi's belief in the Kiwanian policy of excluding women from the club, and, instead, establishing women's auxiliaries.

Bagnaschi says he will continue to support the men-only policy. "That's what the international congress voted. Personally, I feel that behind every good Kiwanian there is a good woman. I feel women are on equal footing with the men now, because without a good wife a Kiwanian can't do a good job.

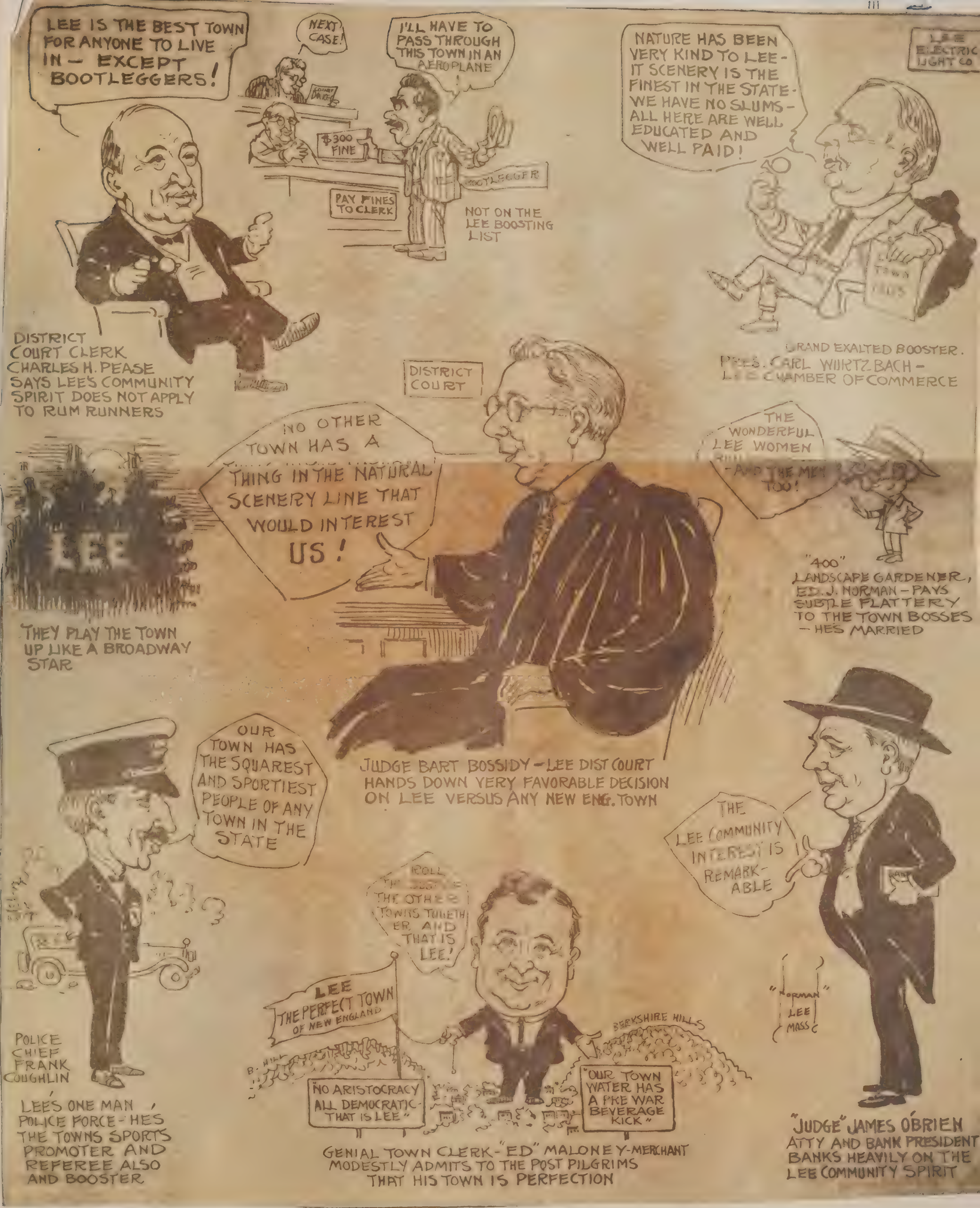
"The male-only policy has been in effect for 60 years and it has worked well. Personally, I believe that if a system is working well, you shouldn't change it. For 60 years, the Kiwanis Club has grown and built itself. It is sufficient to maintain that," Bagnaschi explains.

Since joining the Lee Kiwanis Club in 1974, Bagnaschi has risen steadily through the ranks. He has been president, vice president and treasurer of the club. During 1970-71, he was lieutenant governor of the 14 clubs in the Western Massachusetts District and received the New England lieutenant-governor-of-the-year award for his service.

Bagnaschi was born in Canaan, Conn., but his family moved to Ashley Falls when he was a year old. He graduated from the former Sheffield High School in 1952 and Berkshire Business College three years later.

In 1955 Bagnaschi moved to Lenox and began work for the Pioneer Credit Corp. in Great Barrington. He moved to Lee in 1964 and began work at the bank in 1967.

Bagnaschi is married to the former Viola Chittenden, originally from Stephentown, N.Y. Their four children range in age from 12 to 20.


LEE IS THE BEST TOWN FOR ANYONE TO LIVE IN — EXCEPT BOOTLEGGERS!
NEXT CASE!
I'LL HAVE TO PASS THROUGH THIS TOWN IN AN AEROPLANE
$300 FINE
BOOTLEGGER
PAY FINES TO CLERK
NOT ON THE LEE BOOSTING LIST
NATURE HAS BEEN VERY KIND TO LEE - IT SCENERY IS THE FINEST IN THE STATE - WE HAVE NO SLUMS - ALL HERE ARE WELL EDUCATED AND WELL PAID!
LEE ELECTRIC LIGHT CO
TOWN
DISTRICT COURT CLERK CHARLES H. PEASE SAYS LEE'S COMMUNITY SPIRIT DOES NOT APPLY TO RUM RUNNERS
GRAND EXALTED BOOSTER. PRES. CARL WURTZBACH - LEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
DISTRICT COURT
NO OTHER TOWN HAS A THING IN THE NATURAL SCENERY LINE THAT WOULD INTEREST US!
THE WONDERFUL LEE WOMEN - AND THE MEN TOO!
LEE
THEY PLAY THE TOWN UP LIKE A BROADWAY STAR
"400" LANDSCAPE GARDENER, ED. J. NORMAN - PAYS SUBTLE FLATTERY TO THE TOWN BOSSES - HE'S MARRIED
OUR TOWN HAS THE SQUAREST AND SPORTIEST PEOPLE OF ANY TOWN IN THE STATE
JUDGE BART BOSSIDY - LEE DIST COURT HANDS DOWN VERY FAVORABLE DECISION ON LEE VERSUS ANY NEW ENG. TOWN
THE LEE COMMUNITY INTEREST IS REMARKABLE
ROLL THE BEST OF THE OTHER TOWNS TOGETHER AND THAT IS LEE!
LEE THE PERFECT TOWN OF NEW ENGLAND
BERKSHIRE HILLS
B. HILLS
"NORMAN" LEE MASS
POLICE CHIEF FRANK COUGHLIN
LEE'S ONE MAN POLICE FORCE - HE'S THE TOWN'S SPORTS PROMOTER AND REFEREE ALSO AND BOOSTER
"NO ARISTOCRACY ALL DEMOCRATIC - THAT IS LEE"
"OUR TOWN WATER HAS A PRE WAR BEVERAGE KICK"
GENIAL TOWN CLERK - "ED" MALONEY - MERCHANT MODESTLY ADMITS TO THE POST PILGRIMS THAT HIS TOWN IS PERFECTION
"JUDGE" JAMES O'BRIEN ATTY AND BANK PRESIDENT BANKS HEAVILY ON THE LEE COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Name in the News

Out of the Harlan hills

Mrs. Martin H. Deely is the lawyer daughter of two lawyers.

Last week at a Lee School Committee meeting, she took up the gauntlet for what she terms "social justice and individual rights," with which she, like her parents, is very much concerned.

Mrs. Deely challenged a long standing practice in the Lee school system whereby junior high boys take shop and girls take home economics. She argued that both courses should be available to either sex, and declared that if a boy or girl is refused admittance to either class, she will file suit in federal court charging violation of the Civil Rights Act of 1968.

She says that parents of junior high pupils approached her to raise the issue of sex discrimination. Many of them did not want to take a public stand themselves, she explained, because of fear of pressure upon their children. Her own three children are enrolled at Berkshire Country Day School in Lenox.

* * * *

Mrs. Deely was born Jessie Doyle 35 years ago in Harlan, Ky. — the "Bloody Harlan." One of the reasons she exhibits so much of the Hemingway grace under pressure may be the fact that she was reared in rural Kentucky, where her parents were union lawyers during the sometimes violent process of organizing the coal miners.

She recalls that in Harlan (pop. 5,000), the county seat of Harlan County, the family next door was alarmed upon learning that she could not handle a revolver at 13 and took it upon themselves to coach her in the use of a large thumb-buster Colt. One of her neighbors was the sole survivor of an Appalachia feud between families. Jessie remembers that the only room in his house which had a door was the bathroom after he had barely escaped with his life from a shoot-out when the kitchen door jammed.

* * * *

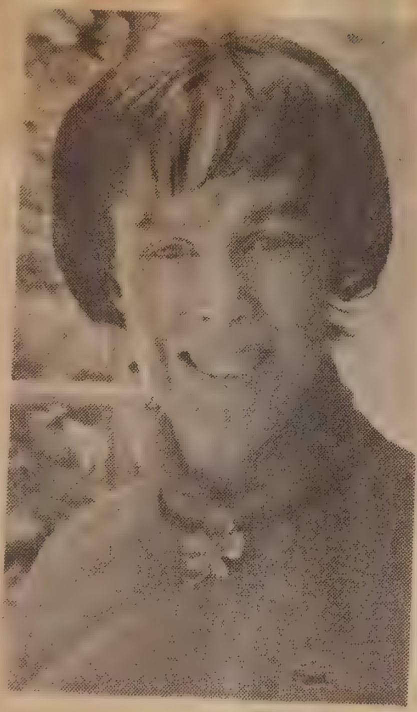
Though violence was a way of life in Harlan and usually the result of a break in the mountaineer's rigid code of personal honor, Mrs. Deely was never drawn into it.

"Ministers, lawyers and doctors were all pretty safe," she says. "The feuders could never tell when they might need one of them."

If the turbulence in Harlan seems to be overplayed, Martin H. Deely, Jessie's husband, a selectman and vice president of the Lee Lime Corp., remembers that a judge once remarked that civilization had finally come to Harlan County when only 6 of the 12 cases on the docket were murders.

When visiting Berkshire County, Jessie's mother, who died three years ago, was always surprised at the dearth of violent crimes in the newspaper accounts of district and superior court proceedings.

Jessie has never been afraid to challenge local traditions. Back in Harlan she became the first girl in the history of the local high school to elect science instead of the traditional home economics.



John Schweizer

Jessie Deely: Challenger of tradition.

In the somewhat more genteel environment of New England, Mrs. Deely has found time to join the League of Women Voters, to be treasurer of the Berkshire Community Action Council and the Democratic Town Committee and vice president of the Lee Library Association, and still read a half-dozen books per week. The books range from murder mysteries to archaeology. She also has won the England's Cup in a Pittsfield bridge tournament.

* * * *

Though she speaks with the accent of upperclass New England — her mother was from Virginia, her father from Elmira, N.Y. — her husband reports that after 15 minutes back in Harlan, she falls into the soft drawl of her girlhood.

Jessie is quick to point out that she is not an advocate of women's liberation groups, but that she challenged the School Committee because there was a question of individual liberties at stake.

She is a member of the Massachusetts Bar and the Kentucky Bar, but doesn't engage in active legal practice. She holds a bachelor of science and a law degree from the University of Kentucky and a master's degree in business administration from the Wharton School of Finance of the University of Pennsylvania, where she met her husband.

Eagle Sept 15 '73

Lawyer hangs out her shingle, marks a first for county women

By Joy Allen

LEE — When Mrs. Jessie Doyle Deely of Pease Terrace hangs out her shingle Tuesday, she will become the only woman lawyer in Berkshire County with her own law practice.

"I had always felt I would open a law office," said the gentle - voiced alumna of the University of Kentucky law school and the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. "But I wanted to wait until Michael was old enough," she said, referring to the youngest of her three children, who is in third grade at the Berkshire Country Day School.

For Mrs. Deely, who is a member of the Kentucky and Massachusetts State Bar Associations, the decision to practice law full time hinged on her family.

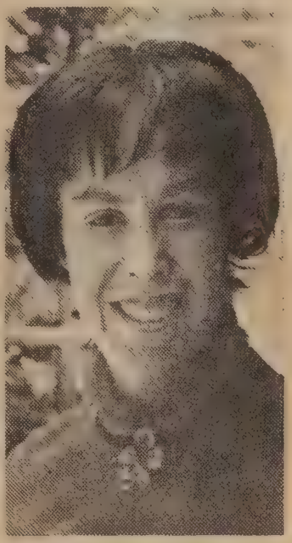
Rather have a carpet

"Martin had been urging me r years and years to prac- ce," she said referring to her usband Martin H. Deely, chairan of the Lee Board of Selecten.

"He's been wanting to buy me aw books every Christmas ince 1966 when I passed the lassachusetts bar," she said. But I always said 'I'd rather ave carpeting' or something," he added.

Asked how her daughters, Virginia, 12, and Anne, 10, feel about her decision to start a full-time law practice, Mrs. Deely said, "They might prefer a puppy to a law practice — or two kittens."

Since last spring when she decided to start the practice, Mrs. Deely has invested several thousand dollars in her law books and office at 196 Main St. which will open officially Tuesday.



Mrs. Jessie Deely

As with the four other Lee lawyers Mrs. Deely will specialize in no particular legal areas, but will answer business, real estate, corporate, divorce and criminal law questions.

Educational background

At first she will operate without a full-time secretary but "If it's financially possible later," she will engage employes, she said.

The 36-year-old daughter of two Kentucky labor lawyers and granddaughter of newspaper editors will probably have no trouble winning the confidence of potential clients.

Mrs. Deely graduated from high school at the age of 16, from undergraduate school at the University of Kentucky at 18, from law school at 21 and received a master's degree from the Wharton School of business at the age of 23.

She talks as easily about her home and family as she does about the current movement toward the equality of sexes.

She related an experience she had when she answered an advertisement for a securities analyst placed with her graduate school employment office in 1960.

Asked to type

After personnel interviewers at the large investment firm that had placed the ad scrutinized her unmistakably professional credentials, they asked her to take a typing test, Mrs. Deely said.

"It was something they asked of all women," she said. "Of course, at the time, I didn't think anything about it," she said. "And of course, I can't type," she added.

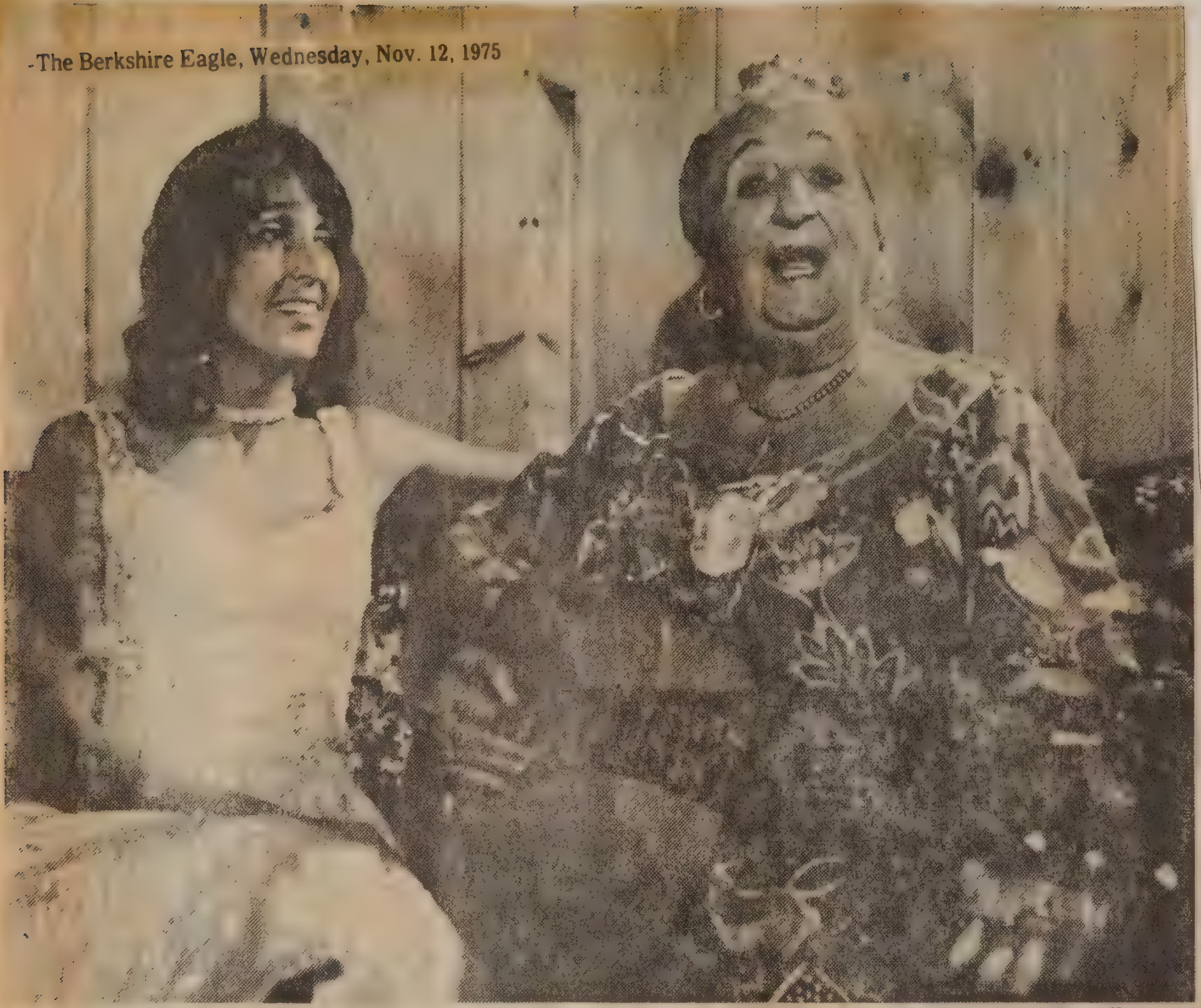
She views the recent increased awareness of social inequalities as a key to routing discrimination. "I think it has made me more aware of discrimination," she said.

Last year Mrs. Deely challenged and, as a result, was instrumental in changing a long-standing practice in the Lee school system whereby junior high boys had taken industrial arts courses and girls taken home economics. She told the school committee that Constitutionally both courses should be available to either sex.

Though Mrs. Deely believes in equal opportunities for both sexes and said she encourages her daughters to prepare themselves for professional lives, there is at least one area where she defers to her husband. Politics.

The gregarious 40-year-old town official and president of the Lee Lime Corp., "is better at politics than I am," she said.

-The Berkshire Eagle, Wednesday, Nov. 12, 1975



Ken Regan

SINGERS Joan Baez and Mama Maria Frasca share a song after dinner prepared by Mrs. Frasca for Ms. Baez and other friends last Friday at Dream Away Lodge in Becket. Ms. Baez's dress was a present from Mama Frasca. Mama Frasca has been asked to sing with the group in Boston next week.

Mama Frasca hosts some friends

Dylan, Baez, Guthrie drop by for dinner

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

BECKET — A few fellow singers named Dylan, Baez, Guthrie and Elliot, a poet they know named Ginsberg, and about 60 of their traveling companions decided to drop in on local chef and amateur crooner Mama Maria Frasca at the Dream Away Lodge here for dinner last Friday.

"They're all old friends of ours," said Terry Deming, Mrs. Frasca's daughter and a bartender at the County Road restaurant, bar and motel.

"We've known Arlo — he arranged it — since he used to come by here and sing with us when he was in high school. We've known Bob (Dylan) for 10 or 11 years. And Joanie's just like a daughter to Mama," Mrs. Deming said.

Taken aback

Despite the fun of seeing their old friends, Mrs. Deming said she and her mother were a bit taken aback by the accompanying entourage of cameramen, lighting engineers, managers and bodyguards.

"I've never seen anything like it. It seemed like too much of a muss and fuss. It hurts you that these nice kids are so popular that they have to have bodyguards," Mrs. Deming said.

The whole seven hours the Rolling Thunder Review spent at the Dream Away was like an old family reunion, Mama Frasca said.

"There was nothing but singing and dancing and laughing and eating the whole time they were here. They all sang and played and they were all so nice," Mrs. Deming said.

With a backup group of Ms. Baez on piano, Dylan, Guthrie and (Ramblin' Jack) Elliot on guitars and mandolins and country singer Ronee Blakley on backup vocals, Mama Frasca strummed her guitar and sang her two newest songs, "Mama and God" and "Mama's Lament."

And the jam session performance apparently impressed her friends. The spicey octogenarian says she has been invited to appear with the Rolling Thunder Review when it plays in Boston later this month.

'Loud and clear'

"When I go to Boston, honey, I'm going to really sing," Mrs. Frasca told a reporter this morning. "I tell everybody, I wish they had as good health as me. Honey, my voice is clear

mine and I always do all the cooking. But Arlo and Jack and some others helped serve it. Arlo was also the bartender."

Mrs. Frasca and daughter gave more than food and a good time to their guests. "They're old friends, and some we hadn't seen for awhile, so had presents for them," Mrs. Deming said.

"And I gave Joanie a dress, an old peasant-type dress, honey. It's one I had and she'd said she wanted it, so she came upstairs to my bedroom to try it on. While she was trying it on, all the others came up and we were joking around," Mama Frasca said.

The eating process was interspersed with "everybody climbing in and out of windows and just having a good time," Mrs. Deming said. Ginsberg also gave a poetry recital through a window while the others were dining, Mrs. Deming said.

The event was closed to outsiders. It marked the end of the season at Dream Away until next Mothers Day. "It was just us and the Review, a fellow who helps out around here and a young man we know who sings and composes music. Maybe someday he'll be a star, too," Mama Frasca said.

12 THE BERKSHIRE HERALD — FEBRUARY 6, 1974

John Waring

LEE FUND DRIVE CHAIRMAN — William Bourdon, chairman of the Lee area fund drive for the Cerebral Palsy Association this weekend, knows how important the contributions are. His daughter, Jennifer, suffers from cerebral palsy and receives weekly treatments and rehabilitation through the association.

, Nov. 20, 1975
The Berkshire Eagle

John T. Cinella

Cinella takes top position in Melrose race

LEE — John T. Cinella Jr., son of Dr. John T. Cinella of Main Street, Lee, received the most votes of 11 candidates in the recent alderman-at-large elections in Melrose.

Cinella is completing his fifth year on the Board of Aldermen. He is a lawyer with the Melrose firm of Killam and Killam.

Cinella and his wife, the former Rosemary Sinopoli of Pittsfield, live in Melrose with their son.

-The Berkshire Eagle, Friday, Nov. 28, 1975

Louis Lamone

Rockwell subject of another book

Among the 659 illustrations in a new biography of Norman Rockwell is this photograph of the illustrator at work in his Stockbridge studio. The book is titled "Norman Rockwell's America" and is written by Christopher Finch and published by Harry N. Abrams. Finch is also the author of "The Art of Walt Disney."

3/28/74

Notes and Footnotes

WHILE we were talking with Mrs. Richard Davis of Lee about her late great-grandfather, Moses H. Pease, onetime state detective in this area, she mentioned that he once had owned the Lee Match Co. This, as they say, gave us pause because we'd never heard of the firm.

Well, no wonder. He had formed it in December 1882. The factory really was only a small, two-room building that stood behind the present branch of the Berkshire Bank & Trust Co. at 1 Park St. Shown here below is a picture of the packaged product, known as a block of matches. Purchasers broke off one match at a time from a wooden block as needed. The firm advertised that, besides the block package, it also made "all kinds, parlor, friction, card and box matches."

* * *

Mrs. Davis explained that the Pease matches were unlike today's phosphorus matches, since they were made of odorous sulphur. "When you strike them, they glow bluish for a while, then burst into flame," says she, and adds, "They smell terrible." She uses the present tense because lots of the old matches remain in the Pease family as souvenirs.

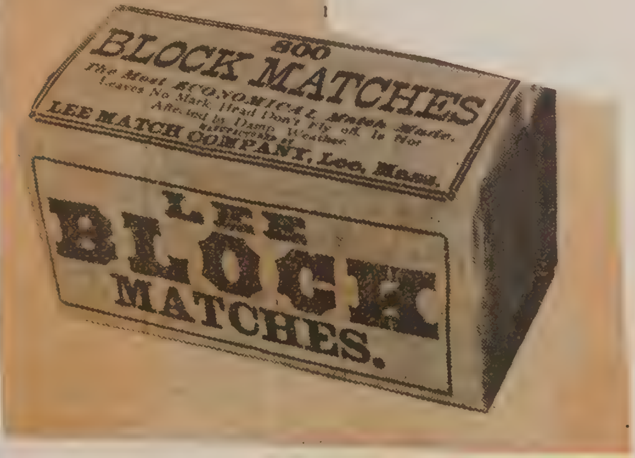
Advantages claimed for the sulphur matches were that "they aren't affected by dampness, the heads can't jump off, they leave no mark when struck, and are sure to light." Pease employed about a dozen men, and made 25 gross a day.

* * *

For many years, the firm supplied the Berkshires and adjacent regions with matches. Just when the plant ceased operation isn't known, but the family believes it was in the early 1900s when the odorless phosphorus matches became popular.

After closing, the little building stood empty for years, until around 1945, when Elliot Pease demolished it. Inside the structure was found a shipping case still full of finished matches. True to the claim, dampness hadn't harmed them at all: So the supply was distributed to relatives for souvenirs. Once in a while someone will strike one for old times' sake.

RICHARD V. HAPPEL


800
BLOCK MATCHES
The Most ECONOMICAL Match Made.
Leaves No Mark. Head Don't Fly off. Is Not Affected by Damp Weather.
LEE MATCH COMPANY, Lee, Mass.
LEE
BLOCK
MATCHES.

FULL STEAM
$900,000

Joel Librizzi

FULL STEAM AHEAD theme for 1975 United Way of Central Berkshire campaign was emphasized Thursday when campaign leaders climbed aboard replica of steam engine and train furnished by Lenox resort owner George Bisacca. Pictured in top row, from left, are chairmen Martin Saltarelli, Jeanne S. Massimiano, William M. Furey, F. Daniel Meehan, Robert W. Petricca, John G. Hunziker, Ernest C. Burgin and Jeffrey R. Winslow. In bottom row from left, holding sign indicating campaign's goal, are Pittsfield City Council President Philip J. Tully Jr., Lanesboro Selectman Jeannette E. Sullivan and Lenox Selectman John J. Pignatelli. United Way executives Thomas L. McFalls and John F. McPherson stand on ground near engine's cab.

Charles Bonenti

Samuel Chamberlain

Citizen's Hall, above, and the former Curtisville Inn, right, are two buildings in Interlaken Center for which historic-district status is being sought. Both have been restored.

U.S. historic-district listing sought for Interlaken center

By Eileen Mooney

STOCKBRIDGE — The town Historical Commission is applying to the federal Department of the Interior to have part of Interlaken, also known as Old Curtisville, designated as a national registered historic district.

John Davis Hatch of Buck's Lane, Interlaken, this week prepared the application, which goes to the Massachusetts State Historical Commission in Boston.

That organization will evaluate the architectural and historic importance of the proposed district and then submit the application to the National Parks Service of the Interior Department, which will decide whether to grant the historic - district designation.

About 170 acres and approximately 45 existing structures, mostly private residences, are included in the proposed district, according to Hatch.

The district will include Train Hill, Averic and Willard Hill roads and about a quarter-mile of Route 183 south from the outlet of Stockbridge Bowl. It does not include such recently developed areas as Quiet Knoll Road, Cross Road east from Tennessee Gas Co. transmission lines or the south ends of Route 183 and Hill Road, Hatch said.

The designation will make any building within the district eligible for matching federal grants for interior and exterior renovations.

It also will require a review by the director of the State Historical Commission before federal funds are used for any project, such as road-widening, in the district, according to Judy Dobbs, the commission's National Register editor.

The designation will not affect properties within the district, except to make them eligible for the matching funds, Ms. Dobbs said. She inspected the proposed district July 22.

Historic resources, including buildings, within the proposed district were identified for the town commission by Old Curtisville, Inc., a private, nonprofit organization that also is headed by commission chairman Hatch.

Old Curtisville, Inc., owns Citizen's Hall (1871), the only nationally registered landmark in the proposed district. Willard Hill Road, on which stands Citizen's Hall, the Congregational Church of Interlaken (1834) and the former Curtisville Inn (1832), will be the focal point of the district, according to Hatch.

They are some of the best examples of architecture in the district, which includes buildings in Greek Revival and Federal architectural styles, Hatch said.

Hatch described Old Curtisville as a small, originally mill - centered community.

He said that, although the mills are now gone, the layout of the community has not changed and most of its original houses are still standing.

He pointed to Citizen's Hall and the Abel Curtis House as fine examples of late Victorian architecture.

The town Historical Commission voted about a year ago to recommend Old Curtisville, Glendale, Yale Hill and the Plains area in the town center as historic districts, Hatch noted.

The Historic District Study Committee, a separate town group, plans to seek voter approval to have the town center, including Main Street, designated as a state historic district.

Unlike a federally registered historic district, establishment of a state historic district requires town approval and provides for regulation of the district's appearance.

Other nationally registered historic districts in Berkshire County are Park Square, Pittsfield, which recently was designated, and two areas in North Adams. The lower Main Street section of Lee is being considered for the designation, Ms. Dobbs said.

ay, February 10, 1973—17

Butler building in East Lee to be razed

LEE — An East Lee Structure at Maple and Cape streets will be torn down soon, according to the Selectmen.

The Selectmen said the structure known as the Butler building would be torn down by a private individual who is seeking only the remnants of the building for payment. Tax Collector Howard Fenwick said the building was taken by the town for nonpayment of taxes in March 1971.

Fenwick said the building originally was owned and operated as a general store and post office by the late William Butler of Pittsfield. Butler died and left the building to his wife, who in turn left it to her daughter Katherine Kiley. Mrs. Kiley died, leaving the building to her grandneice, Mary Ellen Kiley, Fenwick said.

Mary Ellen was the daughter of the late Joseph Kiley, who was the executor of the estate because Mary Ellen was then a minor, Fenwick said. After Kiley died in a fire in Great Barrington several years ago, Fenwick added, Mary Ellen left with her mother for the western part of the United States, where they have been out of touch since 1959, which was the last year taxes were paid on the property.

The Selectmen said no plans have been made for use of the property after the one-story wooden structure is leveled. The land covers less than one-fifth of an acre.

South County HELP Phone names director

Stephen Seche

Donald McDermott

GREAT BARRINGTON — Donald McDermott of Sheffield has been named to succeed Cheryl Bartholomew as director of the South County HELP Phone, effective Sept. 26.

McDermott, 25, a VISTA Volunteer with the Southern Berkshire Community Action group, has been office manager and outreach worker in the SBCA office in Lee since last November.

A graduate of Assumption College in Worcester, McDermott received his B.A. degree in Social Rehabilitation and Counseling. While attending college, McDermott worked at the Worcester Crisis Center, a 24-hour telephone counseling and referral service, and as codirector of an adolescent and young - adult counseling and education center. He was also director of a telephone counseling service in Marblehead.

The HELP Phone, with a staff of two full-time employes and about 30 volunteers, receives approximately 400 calls each month. It now operates 24 hours a day.

McDermott also serves as chairman of the Sheffield Council on Aging and will become a council member of Main Street Human Resources. He and his wife, Sherry, have lived in Sheffield since 1973. They have a 2-year-old son.

Eagle 12-1-75

Two cited at Lee High

Christopher Hodgkins

Photos by Benjamin L. Ginsberg

William Jeff Baker

LEE — Lee High School has named the winners of two honors.

William Jeff Baker, son of Dr. and Mrs. William Baker of Fairview Street has been named the recipient of the Daughters of the American Revolution good-citizen award. This is the first year male students have been eligible for the award. Baker is a senior.

Christopher Hodgkins, son of Mrs. Elizabeth Hodgkins of Prospect Street, will be the school's representative to Student Government Day in Boston next spring. Hodgkins, a senior, is the head of the Student Government Advisory Board and a member of the student council.

Fillio named plant manager at Static, Inc.

Donald I. Fillio

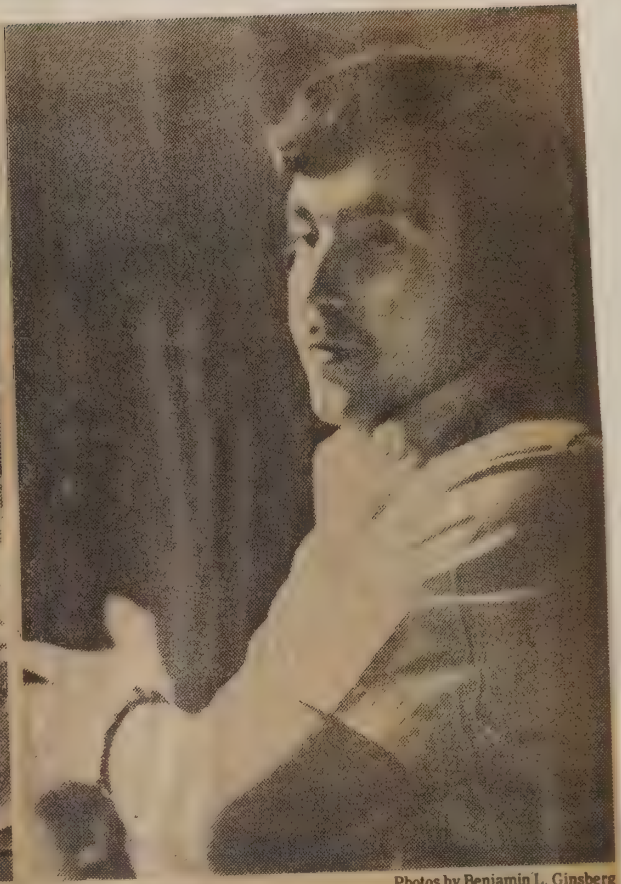
LEE — Donald I. Fillio of Chapel Street has joined the Park Street firm of Static, Inc., as plant manager.

Fillio is a lifelong resident of Lee and previously worked as a purchasing agent for the Clark-Aiken Co. here. He has studied purchasing management at the University of Massachusetts and Western New England College.

As plant manager of Static, Inc., Fillio will be in charge of all internal operations. The firm was founded in February 1974 and provides products and services for industries involved in graphic arts, textiles, pulp and papers, packaging, film, plastics, rubber, leather and pharmaceutics.

Fillio is married to the former Marjorie Griffin and has one son.

LISTENING to problems created by lack of a South Lee sewer are, left to right, Lester J. Clarke, Sandra A. Driscoll and Dr. Charles W. Stratton, all Lee Board of Health members, and Town Atty. James P. Dohoney. Dog is Dr. Stratton's.



Photos by Benjamin L. Ginsberg

TOWN SANITARIAN Peter J. Kolodziej, tells town officials of sewer problems of South Lee.

10-7-75

S. Lee sewer seen as necessary, but unlikely

LEE — The only solution to the problem of 32 South Lee homes and the Mead Corp.'s Willow Mill dumping raw sewage into the Housatonic River is to build a town sewer for South Lee, town officials concluded at a special meeting last night.

But the officials were skeptical that a town meeting would appropriate the funds for such sewage construction, at least in the near future. A special town meeting in July overwhelmingly voted down a $2.47 million South Lee sewer proposal that included $720,000 in state and federal aid.

The town's Public Works Board, which is responsible for the town's sewers, has said it will not reintroduce the sewer proposal until the town decides how much to spend on a new middle school facility. That vote is expected in late November or December.

Peter J. Kolodziej, the town sanitarian, last night reported on the sewage problem to the Selectmen, Board of Health, Public Works Board and Planning Board.

He said it was impractical to ask each homeowner to put in his own septic systems. He said the Willow Mill was under federal government order to install a sewage treatment plant by June, 1977, to alleviate that problem.

He said the individual home owners could not be asked to put in their own septic systems because of the cost, and also because individual septic systems might not work. He cited poor soil, small lots and rock ledges that would prohibit the digging of a septic field in some of the lots.

"There is just no way to put in a septic system for each and every home that is now dumping into the river. And you can't ask just some of the people there to put in systems," Kolodziej said.

Kolodziej said he had talked with officials of the state's Water Pollution Control Commission. "They seem disinterested," Kolodziej said. "They just don't want to get involved and show no signs of wanting to help. They make the law, but then they don't do anything," Kolodziej said.

The refusal of the town to build a sewer in their area is angering the people of South Lee, according to Lester J. Clarke, a member of the Board of Health and a South Lee resident.

"The people of South Lee feel they are getting the shaft with the way their tax dollar is spent," he said. "They pay their taxes but get nothing in return," Clarke added.

Dr. Charles W. Stratton, chairman of the Board of Health, warned of health hazards that could occur from the sewage going directly to the river and sometimes seeping above ground because of a broken sewer pipe.

"The possible diseases range from hepatitis to typhoid fever to diarrhea from contamination of drinking water. In addition, there is a typhoid carrier living in South Lee," Dr. Stratton disclosed.

The town officials scheduled another meeting for Oct. 20 at the Town Hall to further discuss the problem. In the meantime, Kolodziej said he would look for less expensive alternatives to installing a full sewer system in the area.

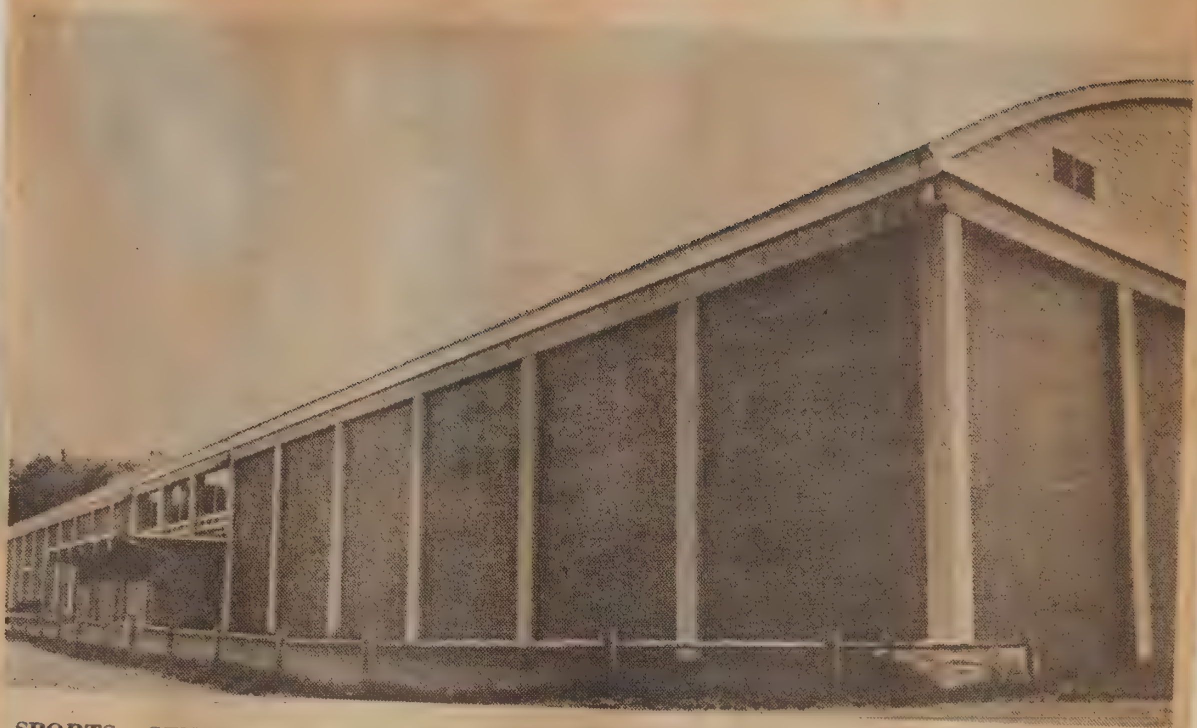
5/74

Glass works opens in W. Stockbridge

WEST STOCKBRIDGE — The Berkshire Blown Glass Works opened for business here Tuesday.

Located in the building across the road from Troy's Garage, the young owners will make functional and other glass objects. They plan to conduct classes later.

The proprietors, John Lewis, Susan Haddad and Sonja Blomdahl, attended the Massachusetts College of Art in Boston together. They are living temporarily in Canaan, N.Y.



William Tague

SPORTS CENTER at the bankrupt Bordentown/Lenox School in Lenox would be leased to the Ice Skating Institute of Berkshire County under an agreement reached yesterday.

Accord reached in lease proposal on Wilde Sports Center in Lenox

By Susan Besaw

LENOX — The parties involved in the proposal to lease the Wilde Sports Center to the Ice Skating Institute of Berkshire County (ISIBC) have agreed "in principle" to a lease arrangement, Stanley Ryba, senior vice president of the First Agricultural Bank of Pittsfield, said yesterday.

The bank, which holds the mortgage on the defunct Bordentown/Lenox school property, including the sports center, has initiated foreclosure proceedings, but will not put the property up for auction until next month, according to Ryba, who is in charge of commercial loans and mortgages for the bank. The property is still officially in the hands of the Bordentown/Lenox trustee, Atty. Albert S. Silverman of Pittsfield.

"As far as we're concerned, they've got the lease," Ryba said. "We're offering it to them at a nominal cost."

He added that the bank's attorney, Kelton M. Burbank, still has to iron out some details and draw up the actual lease before ISIBC and the trustee give final approval.

Favors lease

Silverman said yesterday he is in favor of the lease arrangement.

"In principle I agree that everything should be done to keep the (center) open," he said.

Besides the financial terms of the lease, which will not be disclosed until the lease is approved, Ryba said other stipulations in the agreement will involve who is responsible for cost of utilities, maintenance, insurance and, possibly, some minor repairs.

The nine-member board of directors of ISIBC, headed by Rep. Dennis J. Duffin (D-Lenox), decided last Wednesday to go ahead with plans for the lease arrangement. Representatives of the board met with bank officials later in the week to discuss the proposal.

Duffin said yesterday that, while some of the legal points have created "a highly confusing situation," he is "optimistic" that a viable agreement will be worked out.

"But until we get a lease down in writing, we're not certain that everyone knows what the ground rules will be," he said.

He also said the institute would like to get the terms of the lease ironed out before Nov. 3, when the Tri-Town Hockey League's program is scheduled to begin. He added that ISIBC would probably rent the rink to the same groups that have used it in the past at about the same price, $50 to $52 average per hour.

Besides the Tri-Town Hockey League, which ISIBC oversees, other organizations which have used the rink in the past include the Berkshire Sabres Hockey Team, the Woodland Skating Club and the Lee Hockey Club.

Eviction remote

Duffin called the lease arrangement "an awesome responsibility" but said the board wanted to make sure there would be a facility open in the central Berkshire area for ice skating and hockey.

He said he was also concerned as to what would happen to the lease agreement if a private buyer for Bordentown/Lenox is found.

However, Ryba pointed out yesterday that, while it is possible someone will buy the property, "the possibility of someone evicting them (ISIBC) is remote" because the groups that would want to use the rink will presumably already be renting ice time from ISIBC.

Another possibility for the sports center is a bill in the state legislature that would provide $650,000 to purchase and renovate the center and acquire approximately 40 acres of surrounding land. That bill, filed by Duffin and Sen. John H. Fitzpatrick, R-Stockbridge, was reported favorably out of the Committee on Natural Resources this summer, and is now in the House Ways and Means Committee.

Duffin said yesterday that consideration of the bill will probably focus on whether the state would break even or not in operation of the facility.

He said that several members of the committee he has talked to are "optimistic" about the bill's passage, but he has received no word from the committee chairman as yet.

Halloween parties scheduled in Hinsdale

HINSDALE — Three separate Halloween parties are scheduled in Hinsdale this month. The first, on Saturday, Oct. 25, is the annual parade and party sponsored by the Recreation Committee for preschool and elementary school youngsters. The Fire Department will lead the parade, starting at 2 p.m. at Kittredge School. Youngsters will march through the center at the end of the parade.

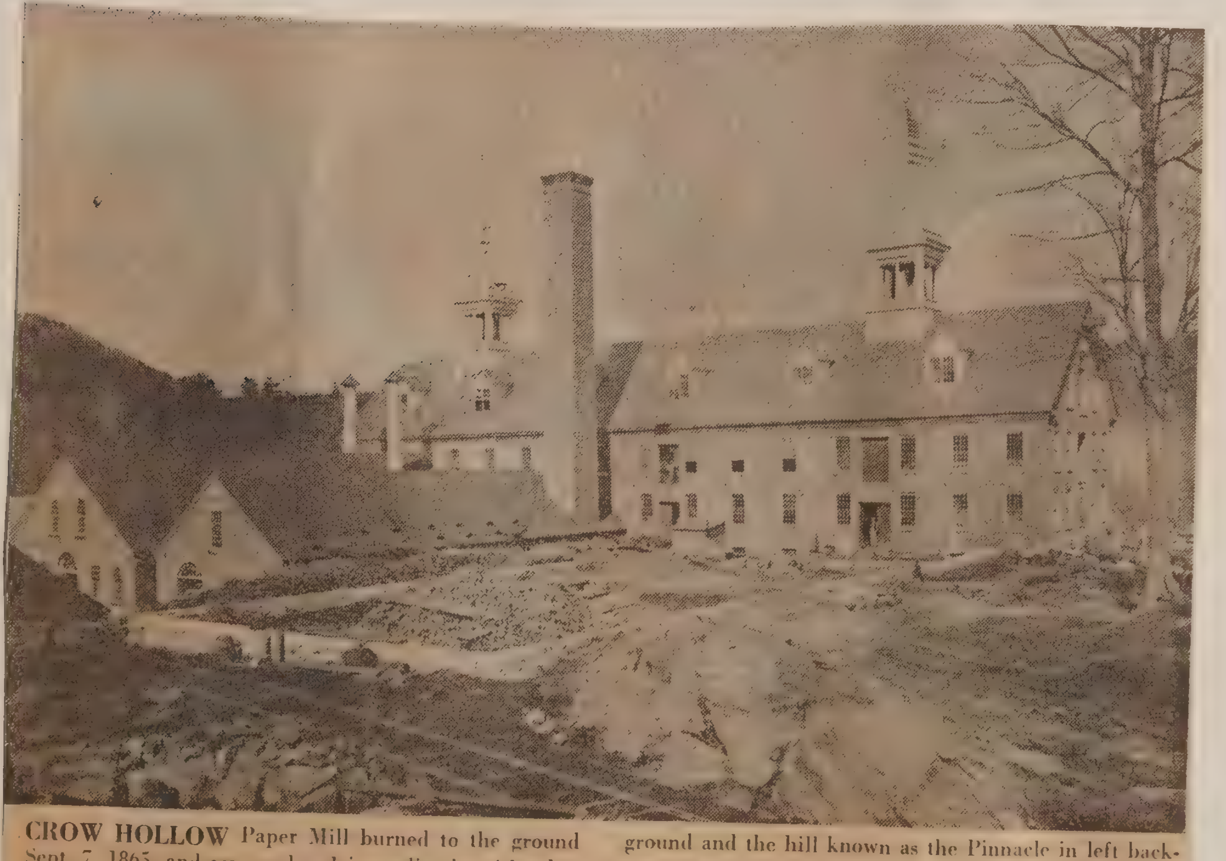
The Lions Club is sponsoring two parties this year in lieu of trick-or-treat activities. The first, Oct. 29 from 6 to 8 at the Youth Center, will be for young children, the Lions said.

Prizes will be awarded for various categories of costumes and refreshments and games will be part of the evening.

On Oct. 31, the Lions are

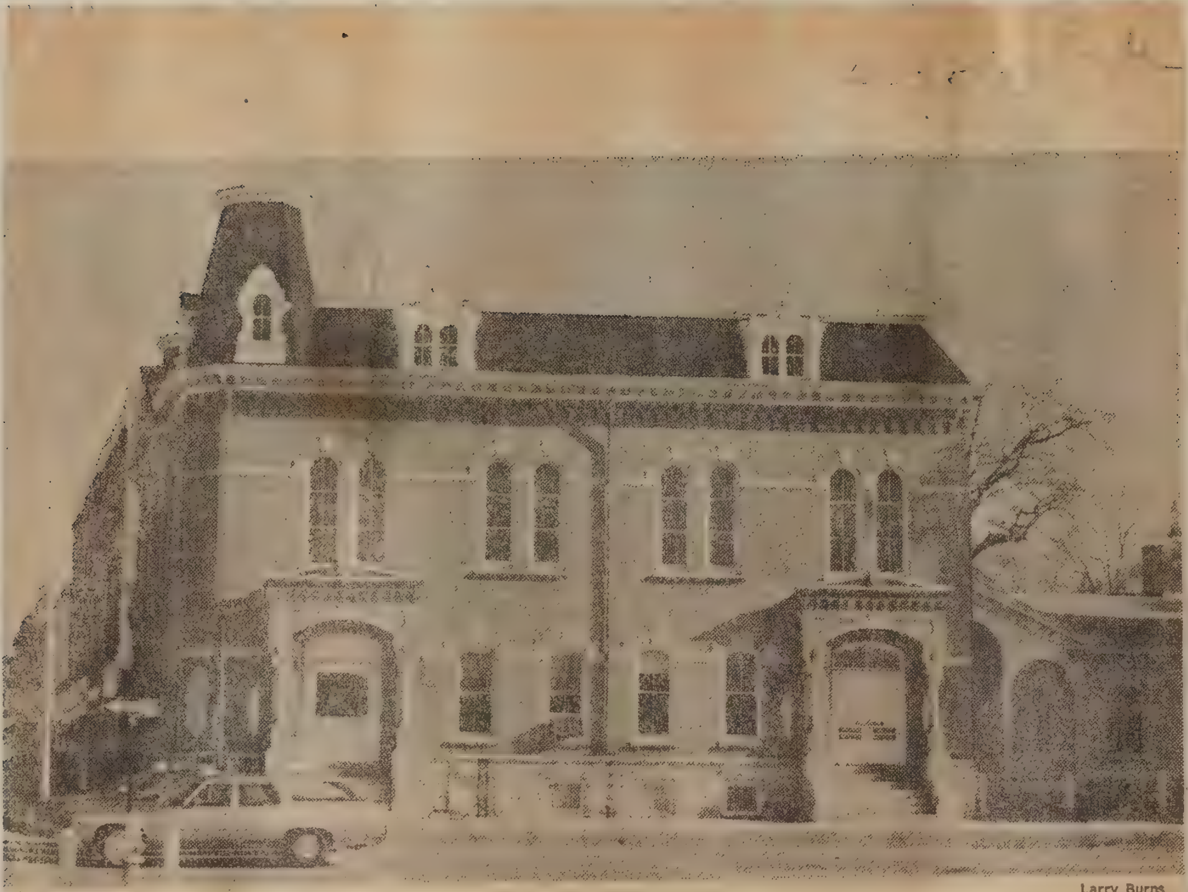
Eagle Apr 12 1972

NORTH CENTRAL LEE as seen today is nearly invisible from Brick Hill because of heavy growth of trees and underbrush. Therefore, this photo was taken from a point about 100 yards north of picture above. About all that remains, except for the river and the hills in the background, are the former Smith Paper Co. mills.



CROW HOLLOW Paper Mill burned to the ground Sept. 7, 1865, and was replaced immediately with what is now known as the Columbia Mill, Schweitzer Division, Kimberly-Clark Corp., Lee. Railroad siding in foreground and the hill known as the Pinnacle in left background are only landmarks which remain at the site. This mill, the first in the natoin to turn out newsprint from wood pulp, produced about 4,000 pounds per day.

#62


Larry Burns

LEE TOWN HALL will be 100 years old tomorrow, dating to the day the red-brick structure was approved. Erected as a memorial to Civil War dead, the structure cost $29,000 when it was built in 1873-74.

Tomorrow is anniversary of funding for Lee's town hall

LEE — Tomorrow marks the 100th anniversary of the day Lee's Memorial Town Hall was approved and money first funded for its construction, according to the centennial history of Lee written by the Rev. C. M. Hyde, D.D. in 1878.

On April 7, 1873, a committee was formed to see if a town hall should be built. On April 26 of that year, the committee reported that $3,200 had been donated to buy land for the building, and the committee gave the go-ahead for construction.

The two-story, red brick structure was finished in January, 1874, at a cost of $22,000. Additional money was spent furnishing it and dividing the basement into rooms. Total cost of the building came to $29,000.

Marble tablets listing the names of the Lee Civil War veterans who had been killed in the war were placed in the main hall of the building at a cost of $650, or slightly more than 2 per cent of the total cost. The building was dedicated May 30, Memorial day, 1874.

According to Mr. Hyde, "This building, while serving the original purpose of a memorial to the Lee soldiers, is a great ornament to the town, and furnishes commodius rooms for town meetings, town offices, library and post office."

The meeting hall was on the second floor, but about eight years ago the hall was divided into various offices. At that time, the Selectmen moved upstairs and the main office in which they used to meet on the first floor was enlarged to include a hallway, an exterior doorway to the south was closed off, and the main office was divided by carrels. Other offices on the first floor were refurbished. Also, the district courtroom and clerk's office at the rear of the building were remodeled.

The exterior also was refurbished, but a proposal to remove the turrets from the roof of the building to make it easier to care for was rejected by the voters on an argument by the late Arthur Pease, who maintained removal of the turrets would damage the appearance of the building.

The Berkshire Eagle, Saturday, Sept. 28, 1974 —

Preservationists eye a Berkshire town

Lee church, neighborhood seen as potential national historic site

By Charles Bonenti

Commentary

LEE — This community has a special endowment. It's not used to pay taxes or fund good works, but it's an endowment all the same. Lee has a rare collection of 19th-century architecture. What makes it special is not so much the quality of each building, but the relationship all of them hold together.

Lee is one example of the value of the whole being more than the sum of its parts. And the architectural fabric of Lee's lower Main Street is unequalled in Berkshire County. North Adams comes a close second with what remains of its amputated downtown after six years of urban renewal. Pittsfield's North Street, alas, has been effectively destroyed by false facades. Slap-dash modernization has garishly masked a once-unbroken line of fine 19th-century commercial facades in Pittsfield.

We might well rechristen North Street the Avenue of Phony Fronts.

Phony Fronts

Sorry, City Council, no amount of greenery or TOPICS redesign will undo what commercial free enterprise has wrought. North Street today is a carnival of catalogue-order esthetics.

But Lee's Main Street is something else. Product of a late 19th-century building boom that followed a series of disastrous fires, Lee's commercial district has remained essentially intact, escaping the excesses of creeping commercial fakery.

Now, not only the First Congregational Church here — an 1858 example of Renaissance Revival architecture — but also its commercial neighborhood surroundings are being considered for designation to the National Register of Historic Places. If the district is placed on the register, it will be the first such neighborhood listing in Berkshire County.

The trend toward naming whole districts, rather than just single landmarks to the National Register, is a relatively new one. When the register was established under the U. S. Department of the Interior in 1935 its purpose was basically to identify historically distinguished properties worthy of national recognition. As the register has grown and the thinking among preservationists changed, however, more and more properties have been added whose significance is more essentially architectural. Moreover, preservationists have come to recognize that the value of a landmark building can be enhanced or diminished by its surroundings.

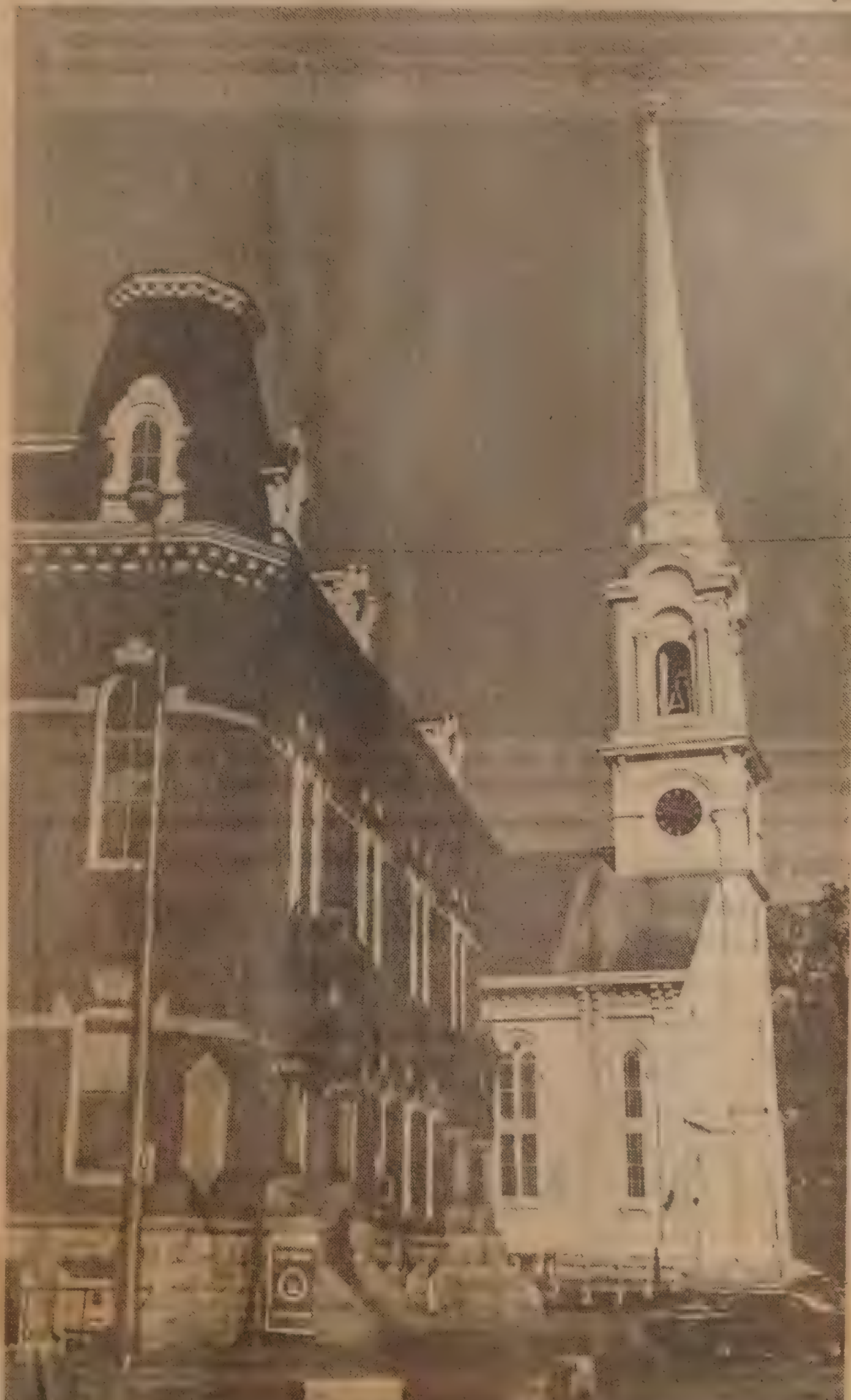
This might seem a rather simple discovery at first glance, but it was an important breakthrough. It is relatively easy to establish a case for naming a single, masterpiece building to the register. It's much more difficult to draw up a "package deal" to include surrounding structures, none particularly important in themselves, but which when taken together make up a complete architectural environment.

Neighborhood survey

This is just what's in the works here in Lee. What started out as a suggestion by architectural historian William H. Pierson of Williams College that the First Congregational Church apply for federal register status, has blossomed into a proposal by the Massachusetts Historical Society that the entire neighborhood surrounding the church be surveyed for a potential package deal.

An informal survey is expected to begin soon.

Owners of federal register properties are not prevented



Lee First Congregational Church (1858) is the focal building in what may be a national historic district. Memorial Hall, foreground, was built in 1873 to honor Lee soldiers who died in the Civil War.

from altering or even demolishing their holdings. What register status does block is the demolition or alteration of listed properties by projects that are federally funded, or licensed. Most often this means by highway work.

Already suggested for a possible historic district here are two large structures which, like the church, front on an oval green at the intersection of Main and Park streets here.

Memorial Hall, a two-story French mansard building that houses the Town Hall and District Court visually ties the soaring church edifice to the tightly knit commercial neighborhood. The Kelly Funeral Home across the green, a flamboyant Victorian mansion built by Smith Paper Co. heir Wellington Smith forms a visual wall that balances both the church and Memorial Hall. The three structures make the park seem like an enclosed public space.

Building boom

Memorial Hall culminated a post-Civil War building boom here that was supported by a highly profitable local papermaking economy. In 1873, the year Memorial Hall was commissioned, Lee spent an unprecedented $350,000 for local capital improvements.

Business blocks, with stores at street level and professional offices above, blossomed along Main Street during this era. These brick-front blocks, with their ornate cornices, symmetrical facades and occasional arched-windows were creatures of the late 19th century. More than any house, church or tavern, they shaped the Victorian Main Street as we nostalgically recall it.

The east side of Main Street in Lee is an unbroken line of these business blocks. Aside from some street-level alterations and some trimming at the roofline the buildings look pretty much as they did 100 years ago. It is alarming that no mention of these business blocks, which stretch from Memorial Hall to the Lee Library, has been made in talks so far about the historic district.

Light elegance

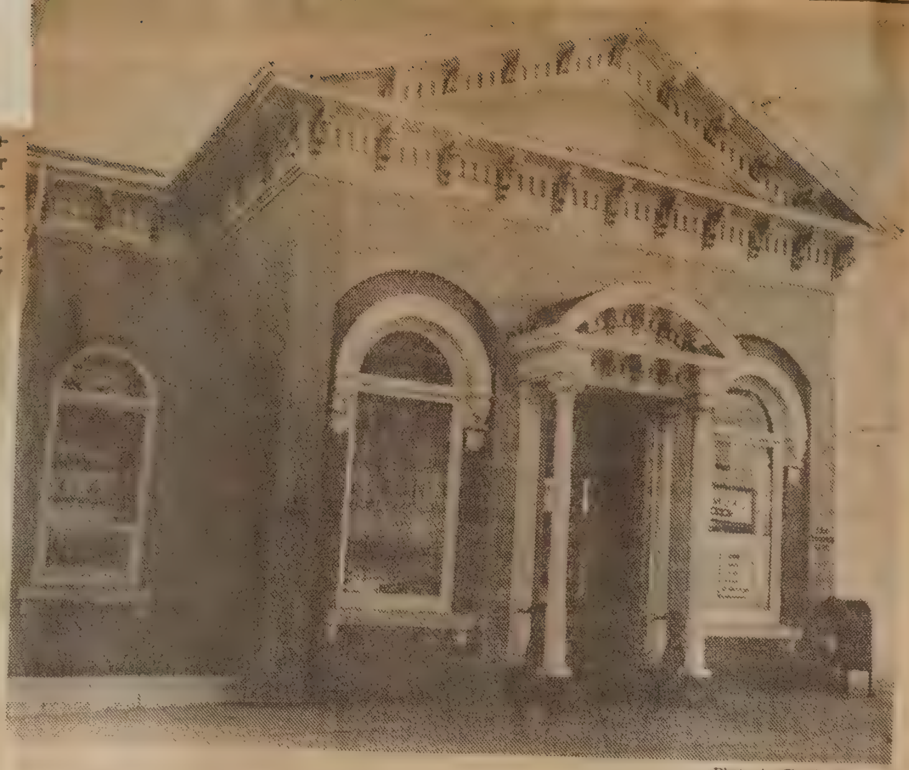
The Lee National Bank on the opposite side of Main Street, is an exquisite example of Renaissance Revival with its fluted Corinthian columns, classical entablature and arched windows. It's an odd token of light elegance in an otherwise restrained business district.

Again, the bank, an essential element of any future historic district here, seems to have been overlooked in early negotiations, while the Morgan House and McClelland's Drug Store next door, both questionably Colonial after several renovations, have figured prominently.

It's all part and parcel of the kind of thinking that equates "Colonial" with "historic" and therefore stamps it "valuable."

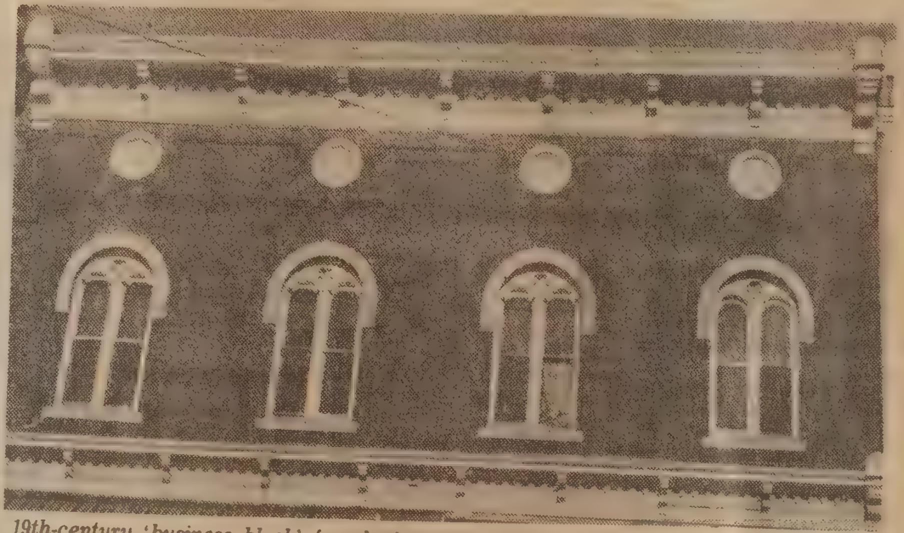
In the meantime, Victorian buildings which are more indigenous to American townscape are demolished every day or, as in Pittsfield, hidden behind cookie-sheet facades.

Lee's Main Street character is decidedly 19th century. It will be refreshing to see it given the national recognition it deserves.

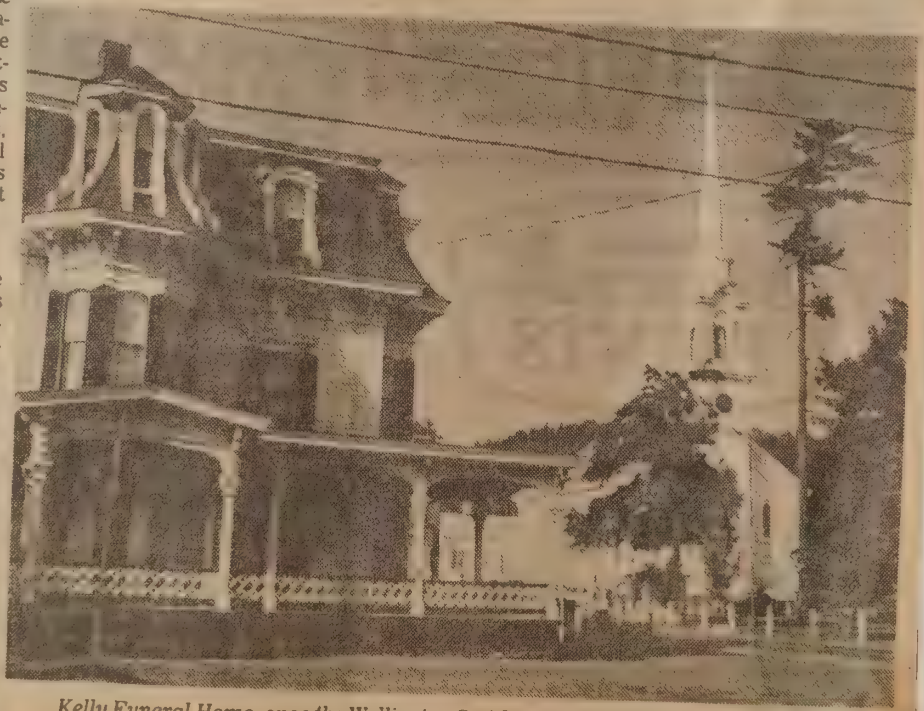


Photos by Charles Bonenti

Lee National Bank on Main Street is classic elegance on a small scale.

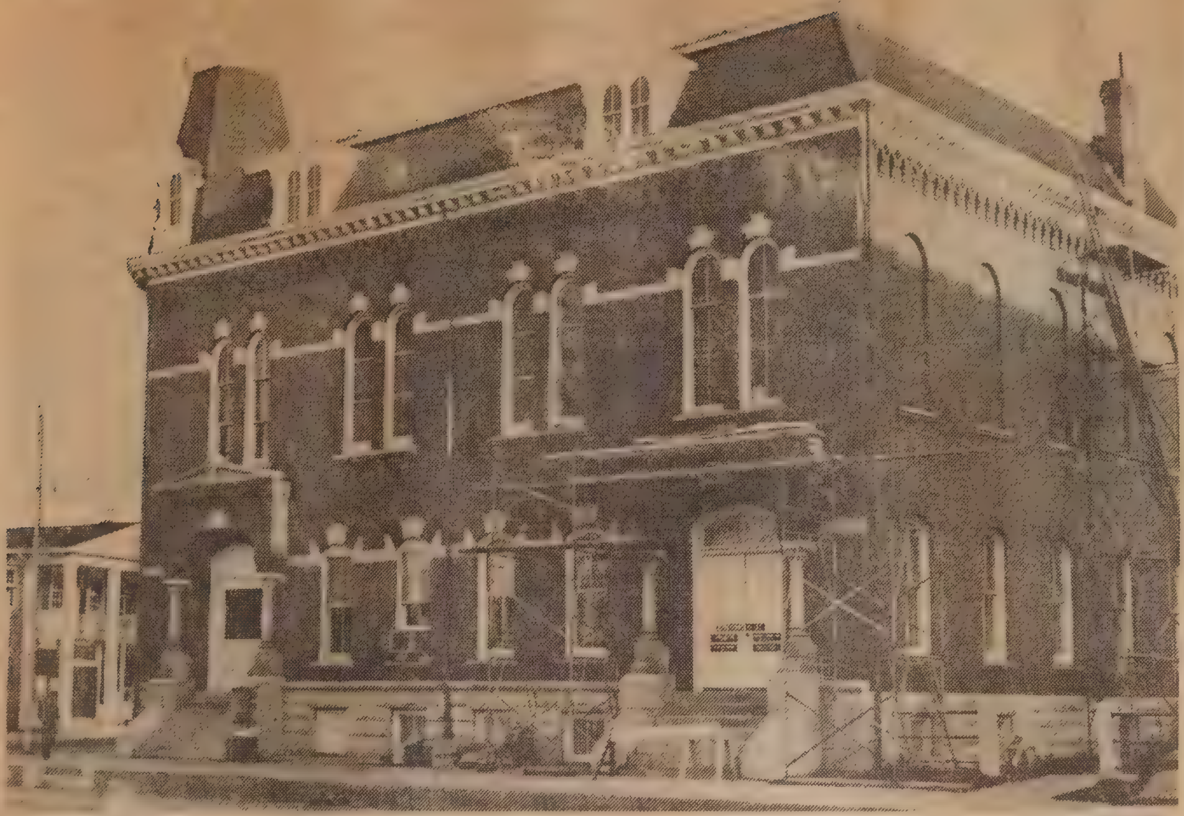


19th-century 'business block' facade is part of an unbroken line on Main Street.



Kelly Funeral Home, once the Wellington Smith mansion, faces church across park.

5/15/75 Eagle



Benjamin L. Ginsberg

CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL in Lee is the Town Hall, where bricks have been found to be crumbling in archways at the corners of the building on the south side, shown here, and an archway over the main entrance facing Main Street. Repair is not expected to cost more than $5,000.

Lee Town Hall being repaired

LEE — Bricks in the archways above three doors in the Town Hall are decayed and will have to be replaced, two town officials told the Selectmen last night.

The hall was built about 100 years ago as a memorial to Lee men killed during the Civil War.

Edward M. Briggs the town's building inspector, and J. Peter Scolforo, DPW superintendent, said the weakness was discovered yesterday when three layers of bricks in the archway above the door to the courtroom crumbled during routine maintenance and renovation to the building.

No one was hurt when the bricks fell.

Briggs, Scolforo and DPW board chairman Paul Kneuer estimated it would cost "no more than $5,000 to repair the building.

"We noticed the bricks were wobbly, and when we tried to take them off one by one with a crane they all fell," Scolforo said.

The three archways are in the building's southeast corner by the courtroom, the southwest corner by the town clerk's office, and the main entrance.

Briggs and Scolforo said the weakest archways were by the court and the town clerk's office. They said there was no immediate danger to the archway above the main entrance. The archway by the clerk's office is over what was formerly a doorway when the Selectmen's room and police station were located on that corner.

"It looks like if we can take off the outer layers we can repair the archways," Scolforo said. "The decay only seems to be about three layers of bricks deep. We think we can recast the whole archway in concrete."

The Selectmen told Scolforo to use $1,000 left in the Town Hall repair fund to begin the job. The rest of the money would be appropriated as needed from the town's emergency fund, they said.

The work being done yesterday when the decay was discovered was part of routine repair work being done to the building before it is painted next week.

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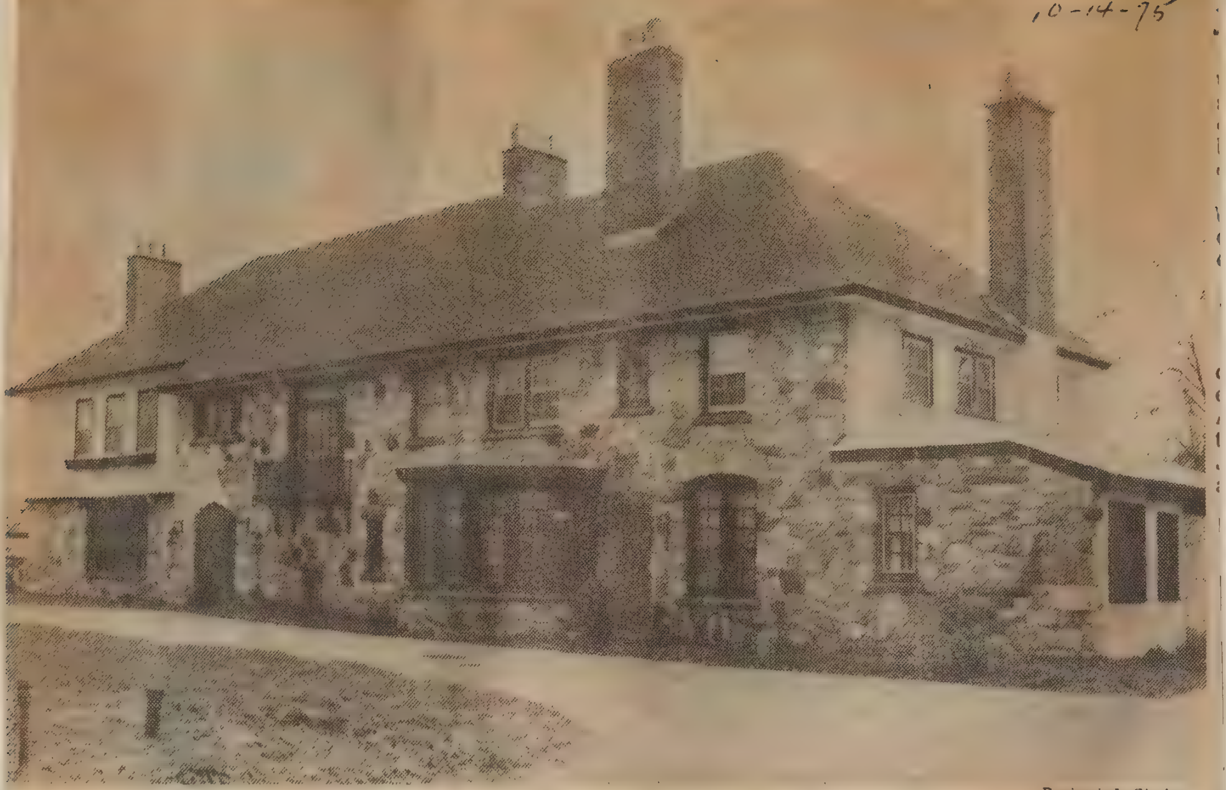

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

THE LEXIA SCHOOL off Summer Street in Lee is once again for sale. The 35-acre tract includes a main building (shown above), a cottage and two other buildings. Sea Ventures, a New Jersey based nonprofit group, says it will begin actively promoting the sale of the property on Nov. 1.

Lee Savings adopts bicentennial decor

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — It's that time of the century to remodel in American Colonial design and the Lee Savings Bank is right in step with the bicentennial spirit.

The bank's interior has been redecorated to give a Colonial flavor at a cost of $260,000 by the St. Louis, Mo., firm of Bank Building Corp. An architect with the corporation, Charles Guariglia, drew the plans for the remodeling.

Murals of Colonial Williamsburg, Va., behind the tellers' windows, a grandfather clock, two newly installed Colonial-style chandeliers and several potted plants highlight the new interior of the bank. Edgewood blue is the dominant color of the new scheme.

The interior remodeling has also allowed the bank to make some basic changes that will make the bank more functional, according to Richard Sitzer, bank president.

Need to expand

Sitzer pointed to the need to expand certain facilities because of the growth of the bank's business since it opened in its present location 21 years ago. When the building opened in 1954, deposits totaled $11.7 million. They now exceed over $40 million, Sitzer said.

Among the major changes, Sitzer said, is the installation of glass panels to completely close off individual offices for increased privacy. Another change is the installation of a fully automatic teller, which will provide complete 24-hour service for the bank's customers. Both deposits and withdrawals can be made with the aid of the new computer.

Sitzer said the bank's trustees approved the $260,000 expenditure to "offer our customers the most modern and efficient facilities in a fast-changing banking environment. We have projected our needs 10 years down the road and feel that the current program is one of the keys to future success."

The bank will hold an open house on Dec. 6 from 10 to 5, to officially introduce the renovations.

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

NEW DECOR for the Lee Savings Bank includes an elaborate chandelier overhead and a grandfather clock. Bank president Richard Sitzer said the remodeling project was dictated by the need to improve banking facilities.

1,500 attend open house 12/8/75 at Lee bank

LEE — About 1,500 people attended the Lee Savings Bank open house Saturday from 10 to 5, bank President Richard Sitzer reported today.

"The response was fantastic and we're very pleased," Sitzer said.

The open house marked the start of registration for a drawing which features more than $800 cash prizes. Registration will continue through Dec. 20, Sitzer said.

Aug 9, 1974

Edward A. Shanahan

LEXIA SCHOOL in Lee will be auctioned off next month as a result of foreclosure proceedings instituted by Lee Savings Bank. Main building, above, is part of the former Willard Smith estate that was purchased in 1962 to house Lee Academy, the forerunner of Lexia School closed a year ago.

Lexia School property up for auction

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — Lexia School, whose existence here has fueled controversy between school and town officials for much of its 12-year life, will be sold at public auction next month because of "delinquent payments" on its mortgage.

Charles M. Tacy, treasurer of Lee Savings Bank, said this morning that the auction, scheduled for Nov. 5, was authorized by foreclosure proceedings against the school approved last week by Berkshire County Superior Court.

* * * *

School president Philip C. Feltman of Clifton, N.J.; a certified public accountant, refused to make any comment this morning on the sale.

"I'm not answering any questions. There is nothing I can say to you because the past history of your newspaper has been absolutely obnoxious," he said to a reporter.

Kenneth Weatherspoon, the school's director, could not be reached by telephone this morning. A telephone operator said that the school's telephone had been disconnected, but did not indicate when.

Tacy said that the bank held a mortgage on the school that was granted in 1967 for $140,000, but would not say how much of the balance was outstanding.

Asked to confirm reports that the balance was approximately $80,000, Tacy declined, saying that he was legally prohibited from releasing the figure.

Nor would Feltman indicate what the remaining balance was.

The school property, located off Summer Street in the northwest section of town known as Brick Hill, consists of the 35-acre former Legelands estate, once known as "Mandalay." From 1962 through 1970, the property was site of Lee Academy, a proprietary boys' preparatory school founded by Feltman.

* * * *

Following several fires at the school, and a legal battle over plumbing-code violations, Lee Academy closed in December 1968, but reopened late in 1970 as Lexia School, a non-profit institution designed to serve students sent to it by Massachusetts and New Jersey youth services agencies.

Those agencies subsequently withdrew their recognition of the institution, and it ceased operations last fall. It has since remained empty — with the exception of a one-week camp session this summer for children from New York City.

* * * *

Feltman purchased the former estate in 1962 for $47,500. Last fall, when he offered the property to the town after Lexia operations ended, he submitted two separate appraisals to town officials calculating its value at $350,000 and $343,000.

Feltman offered to sell the property to the town for $300,000, but a December special town meeting declined the offer.

Enrollment at Lee Academy ranged from a high of 100 students in 1966 to 14 shortly before it closed.

Three months ago, Feltman and Weatherspoon were sentenced in Lee District Court to two months in jail and a fine of $800 each after they were found guilty of failure to pay wages to eight persons employed at the school this year. Both have appealed the finding.

Sept. 10-70

Tax-Free Status Sought For Lee Academy Property

LEE — C. Phillip Feltman, owner of Lee Academy, has apparently taken action to establish Lexia School on the site of the academy. He assured town officials yesterday that he did not intend to open the facilities as a school this fall.

The Selectmen learned last night in a letter from the secretary of the commonwealth that four residents of Lee and "other nonresidents" have applied for a certificate of incorporation of the Lexia School. Local applicants for the certificate of incorporation, according to the letter from Secretary John F. X. Davoren, are Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Fabian of 239 Prospect St. and Mr. and Mrs. Williamson W. Johnson of Summer Street. The letter stated that there were other applicants for the certificate but merely referred to them as "nonresidents."

In a letter to the secretary's office the board indicated it did not have any objection to the incorporation.

Feltman met with the Assessors yesterday to discuss a possible abatement of taxes for his school property, which was formerly occupied by Lee Academy.

Feltman first informed the Selectmen of his intention to establish Lexia School at a meeting in September last year. At the time he said that the school would open later in the year with 20 dyslexic youngsters, aged 6 to 13 years, who would be housed and taught in the main building of the facilities. Dyslexia is a disability traced to a lack of eye coordination.

He explained at the time that the Lexia School would operate as a nonprofit educational institution on a tax-exempt basis. He charged that "certain individuals" in town were "forcing" him to "go off the tax rolls."

Although the Lee Academy was eligible for exemption from local real estate taxes by changing its legal structure, the school always paid property taxes to the town as a proprietary school. The property was assessed in 1969 at $154,700 and Feltman paid $5,823.90 in taxes on his real estate in that year.

The Selectmen, in September 1969, said they had no objection to the incorporation of the school and would approve it. However, no further action was taken by Feltman on the matter and Davoren's letter was the first notice of incorporation proceedings received by the Selectmen.

Lee house to be sold at auction

LEE — A Prospect Street residence owned by the now-defunct Lexia School will be sold at public auction Jan. 30 because of delinquent payments on its mortgage, according to officials at Lee Savings Bank.

The house, on the northwest corner of Prospect Street and an extension of Mandalay Road currently under construction, was purchased by the school from Frank Baccoli in 1963.

According to records at the Registry of Deeds in Pittsfield, a mortgage for $11,500 was given to the savings bank at the time of purchase. Bank officials have not indicated the size of the outstanding balance.

Although a separate legal action, the sale is part of a foreclosure process against the school that last saw the school property itself sold to Sea Ventures, a New Jersey-based fresh-air organization.

Walter I. Cairnes, head of the group that bought the school in November, said this morning that the group had not yet considered purchasing the Prospect Street property, but that a Sea Ventures representative might be present for the auction.

The school owned a second residence on Prospect Street, which it purchased in 1964 from David R. Bickford. But bank officials said they hold no mortgage on that property and it is not included in the sale.

DECEMBER 12, 1973 LENOX, MASSACHUSETTS 24 PAGES 15 CENTS

LEE REPS DUBIOUS ABOUT BUYING LEXIA FOR SCHOOL OR CENTER

by John Waring

LEE — A proposal that Lee purchase the former Lexia School property off Summer Street for use as a town school site or a community recreation center seems to have found little favor among representatives here, according to a random survey conducted by "The Berkshire Herald."

Purchase of the Lexia property will be discussed by town officials and representatives after a special town meeting this Thursday, Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m. in Central School.

Selectmen Chairman Martin H. Deely said he plans to ask representatives if they are interested in purchasing the property, and if so, how they want the Selectmen and other town officials to proceed.

After the controversial private school closed last month, Philip C. Feltman, owner of the property, offered it to the town for $300,000. His offer included two appraisals—$350,000 and $353,000—for the 35 acres, a three-story residence, a gymnasium and a dormitory/classroom building.

Officials Visit Lexia

Members of the Selectmen and School Committee and about 20 representatives subsequently visited the property. Although the Selectmen have not indicated their position, the School Committee members indicated they would be interested in the property only if assistance funding could be obtained from the state's School Building Assistance Bureau (SBAB).

(*Continued on Page 6*)

Lee Reps L

(*Continued from Page 1*)

School Committee members pointed out that extensive repairs would be required, in

ubious about Lexia...

addition to the purchase price, and several members said they believed Lee's interests would be better served in other ways. The Committee has asked the SBAB to inspect the site, but no date has been set for the visit.

Mixed Response Reported

Mr. Deely acknowledged that the public's reaction to the Lexia proposal has ranged from "very mixed to negative" but that since the offer has been, it would be wise to poll town sentiment informally after the special town meeting.

When he first presented the proposal to the School Committee, Mr. Deely said the property and buildings might be useful as a new school site, a recreational center for town offices, or a combination of both.

At that time Mr. Deely said alternatives to the town's purchasing the property were not good. "We could have another junky school that would bring problems—or a housing or apartment development that would place a severe strain on municipal and school departments."

Mr. Deely suggested that state funding might be available from the state for school construction or from the federal government for recreational and open space uses.

Sampling of Opinion

District representatives contacted by "The Herald" expressed a similar view, and most said that voters in their districts were opposed to the plan. The following views were most frequently heard among the representatives polled:

C. Marcel Brunel, who represents District 6 where the property is located, said that most residents there want something done to avoid a recurrence

(*Continued on Page 7*)

Lee Reps Dubious ...

(*Continued from Page 6*)

of problems with another school, but they do not want the town to purchase the property. Mr. Brunel also a member of the School Committee, said he was waiting for the SBAB's opinion but suspected the purchase would not be a good investment for the town.

Stephen A. Cozzaglio, a District 4 representative, said he has received little comment from residents and thought the purchase question should be postponed until a need had been established by the Capital Outlay Committee. Mr. Cozzaglio explained that purchase and use of the property, either for a school or community center, would involve a large operating expense that would have to e weigh against other alternatives.

William Noonan, a District representative, said he thoug the town could not afford t property and most residen have assumed a "hands-of attitude about it.

Mr. Noonan suggested that the town's school needs might be better served if it considered the future use of St. Mary's School, which he suspected might be phased out in several years. Those facilities already meet state standards and would not require the extensive repairs and modifications that Lexia would require, according to Mr. Noonan.

Routine Articles

The special town meeting will authorize the Department of Public Works to award a six-month contract for operation of the sanitary landfill.

The DPW was given responsibility for the landfill at a town meeting earlier this year and has received bids from several local firms for operation of the dump.

The warrant will also list four other articles, three of which will correct the wording of an article from a previous town meeting that transferred unused sewer funds from the Marble Street to the Summer Street project, Mr. Deely explained. The fifth article will ask voters to increase by $200 the transportation account of the Tri-Town Sanitarian.

Eagle 11-21-75

Lee United Fund drive tops $46,000 goal

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

Joseph M. Toole

19-year-old chairman

LEE — The Lee United Community Fund Drive has reached its goal for the first time in three years, fund drive chairman Joseph M. Toole said today.

The drive has now collected $679 more than its $46,000 goal, with "about $500 more to come," Toole, a 19-year-old realtor and insurance agent, said. The drive collected $43,727 last year.

The Lee drive is the third in Berkshire County and the first in Southern Berkshire to reach its goal. The Dalton and Hinsdale drives exceeded their goals last week.

Extended deadline

The United Way of Central Berkshire, covering Pittsfield, Lanesboro and Lenox, is now at 90 per cent of its $900,000 goal. That drive has extended its deadline twice and will probably extend it a third time.

The Southern Berkshire Community Fund Drive ended its drive on Nov. 18, with only about 70 per cent of its $60,000 goal collected.

The Northern Berkshire United Way has collected 92 per cent of its $186,665 goal. The Williamstown Community Chest has slightly more than 80 per cent of its $58,405 goal.

Key to Lee's success

Toole said the key to the Lee's drive success was the increases in the commercial and industry categories. Commercial gave $9,000 this year, compared to $6,600 for last year. Industry provided $33,100 this year and $32,038 last year.

Other categories were special gifts, $2,229 this year, $2,600 last year; schools, $1,500 this year, $1,200 last year; professional, $750 this year and $800 last year, and government, $100 this year and $217 last year.

Commenting on the over-all drive, Toole said, "We left no stone unturned. I guess we solicited more people than last year."

Toole said the drive was hampered by the employment situation at the town's two largest mills, Peter J. Schweitzer Division of the Kimberly-Clark Corp. and the Mead Corp.

"While the employe gifts from both mills went way down, the corporate gifts went way up. That accounts for the increase in the industry category," Toole said.

The fund's budget committee will decide next spring on how to allocate the money collected.

Sept. 19, 1975

Miss Waldridge, 25-year-resident of Meadow Place, will be honored

Joel Librizzi

Ninety-eight-year-old Miss Louise Waldridge, who will be honored at a tea Tuesday at Meadow Place, where she has been a resident for 25 years.

Ninety-eight-year-old Miss Louise Walbridge, the oldest resident of Meadow Place, Lenox, and the one who's been there the longest — 25 years on Tuesday — will be honored at a tea at 3 p.m. that day.

In excellent health, she plays the piano for church services at Meadow Place, enjoys knitting and reads with the aid of a magnifying glass. She keeps a canary, Jeffrey, in her room, and "has a gallant sense of humor that really keeps the place humming," says Mrs. Guri Sherratt, Meadow Place director.

"She goes out to lunch, to Tanglewood and to Berkshire Community College plays in the evening."

Born on Aug. 12, 1877 in St. Louis, Mo., where she drew up, she spent summers in Randolph Center, Vt. After the death of her father she moved to Pittsfield with her mother in 1900 and lived here until going to Meadow Place on Sept. 23, 1950. She was employed at the Berkshire Trust Co. for 18 years and belonged to First Congregational Church.

An 1897 graduate of Monticello College in Godfrey, Ill., a girls' junior college and now a community college, Miss Walbridge traveled alone by train to attend her 70th reunion in 1967.

She is a member of the Church-on-the-Hill, Lenox.

In the 1880s, her father wrote the following poem that he dedicated to her:

Ralph Brown

PROJECT HEAD START children will return to New York City today after spending the week at Lexia School in Lee. The three children above were among 200 who spent five days on the campus as part of the Brownsville (N.Y.) Community Council project.

Head Start children complete week-long stay at Lee school

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — Nearly 200 five- and six-year-old Project Head Start children climbed onto buses this morning to return to their New York City homes after spending a week at Lexia School

Sponsored by the Brownsville (N.Y.) Community Council, the five-day stay in the Berkshires was made possible by Lexia director Kenneth Weatherspoon, who made the school facilities available to council officials without cost.

* * * *

The children and most of the 32 staff members and 41 parents who accompanied them arrived Monday. Some staff members came late last week to prepare for the visit.

Activities planned for the children during a closely supervised 12½-hour day included sack races, swimming, nature walks and arts and crafts.

Many of the events were put on film, according to Richard P. Hoke, assistant educational director of the council's Child Development Center, who with director Maurice Reid supervised the activities at Lexia.

Hoke said that the films would be shown throughout the year to reinforce the experiences of the children who came to the Berkshires and to show what happened to the children who didn't.

* * * *

This isn't the first time that Weatherspoon has worked with the Brownsville group. During the late 1960s and early 1970s he was assistant program director for the council, and was instrumental in establishing its Head Start project.

In 1969 he was director of a summer camp at Lexia that brought 9- through 13-year-old children from Brownsville to the school for four two-week sessions. That summer was one of the quiet spots in Lexia's stormy history.

Weatherspoon was subsequently brought to the school at the end of 1973 to be its director. Although the school had no students at the time, and still has none, Weatherspoon was asked to develop a new program to serve emotionally disturbed children. That program is still under study.

Construct acquires Lee house

LEE — Construct, Inc., a nonprofit housing agency based in Great Barrington, has purchased a residence at 88 Center St. here and will renovate it and sell it to a local moderate-income family, the Selectmen were told Monday.

Agency spokesman Robert A. Fewer, appearing before the board to seek information on local permit requirements, said the dwelling was obtained by the church - sponsored group after a Great Barrington bank foreclosed a mortgage securing the property.

Fewer said that Construct paid $11,000 for the house, and would spend another $6,000 to $7,000 for renovations before selling it at cost to a Lee family.

Construct representatives are preparing supporting documents so that the family may receive a federal Farmers Home Agency loan to buy the house, Fewer added.

The six-year-old agency completed purchase of the house Dec. 6 and expects to finish renovations by spring, Fewer said.

The Center Street house is the first one to be bought in Lee, and only the third one in the history of the agency. Residences in Housatonic and Great Barrington have been renewed in a similar fashion.

Fewer said that the group is looking for other properties here, and that it is interested in using the services of students in the high school housebuilding program for renovations.

Since it began in 1969, the agency has renovated houses and rented them to low- and moderate - income families, provided assistance to families building or purchasing homes and worked with the Great Barrington Housing Authority to establish a state - funded rental assistance program.

The Selectmen indicated that the group should have no difficulty obtaining necessary permits. "We're glad to see Construct in Lee," said Selectman Martin H. Deely.

8/20/74

Lee residents may apply for U.S. funded jobs

LEE — Application for public-service jobs created under a federal allocation can be made at the Lee Town Hall Wednesday between 8:30 and 4 in Room 2

The Berkshire Training and Employment program (PTEP)- announced Saturday that an audiovisual technician and a clerk-typist will be hired under the program.

Additionally, a part-time meter maid and a technical assistant to the town Department of Public Works superintendent, J Peter Scolforo, will be hired through the program, BTEP officials have said

Applicants must have been unemployed for at least 30 days and be lower-income workers.

For instance, to qualify, a person supporting a family of four could not have been making more than $4,550 a year when employed

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Eagle

Sorority to hear talk on survey of Lee elderly

1/23/75

LEE — Don McDermott,
VISTA volunteer assigned to th
town Council on Aging, will dis
cuss a survey of elderly resi
dents here at a meeting tomor
row night of Delta Beta chapter
Beta Sigma Phi sorority.

The meeting, to be held at th
Maritta Avenue residence of Be
verly J. Wacker, will start at
p.m.

Members of the recentl
formed service sorority will a
sist McDermott with the survey
according to chapter spokesma
Melva Mushroe.

The survey is designed
identify elderly residents ar
their problems here and prese
information to them about pr
grams for the elderly.

Eagle 1-8-75

South Berkshire selectmen to discuss 55 new public jobs

LEE — Selectmen from 15 Southern Berkshire towns have been asked to meet here tomorrow night to discuss creation of new, short-term public service jobs under provisions of the federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA).

Sponsored by the Pittsfield-based Berkshire Training and Employment Program (BTEP), the 7:30 session will be held in the second-floor conference room of the Town Hall.

Karon S. Thompson, BTEP job developer who with director Peter J. Perlmutter will lead the session, said yesterday that the agency has funds for 55 new jobs in south-county towns.

Maximum salary

The positions, which carry a maximum salary of $10,000 per year, were created under Title 6 of the federal act, an amendment to CETA legislation.

Unlike those established through the earlier Title 2, the new positions will be funded for a maximum of eight months and will not require that CETA-paid employes be rehired by towns at the end of that term, according to Mrs. Thompson.

Title 2 positions are funded for one year and seek a commitment from hiring officials to continue the position past that term on a regular basis at town expense.

Mrs. Thompson said that the $600,000 expected in Title 6 funds could finance 200 public-service jobs throughout the county. Fifty-five positions have been established already in Northern Berkshire and BTEP officials are seeking 100 in Pittsfield, she added.

The eight-month period isn't expected to be extended, she said, "but I suspect that if the economy continues at its current rate, we would see funds provided for three times as many jobs as we're seeking now."

Bicentennial jobs

Although the new funding will create only short-term jobs, BTEP officials will provide employes with job counseling and attempt to place them in private-sector positions when public-service jobs expire.

"Consequently, we hope that the public-sector jobs we develop now will provide work experience that is transferrable to private-sector jobs," Mrs. Thompson said.

BTEP officials would like to see positions established involving bicentennial projects, restoration of town buildings, tourist attractions and conservation projects, Mrs. Thompson said.

Additionally, a variety of social-service jobs, including those serving elderly residents, are being sought, she added.

BTEP, the CETA agency here that is responsible for administering the program throughout the county, has already received funds for an initial 80 positions in the county. Funds for the remaining 120 are expected to arrive shortly, although no date has yet been determined, she said.

5/27/75 Eag

S. Berkshire Community Action opens branch office in Lee

LEE — A branch office of Southern Berkshire Community Action program recently opened here at the YMCA building on West Park Street. The office will be open Monday through Friday from 9 to 3.

Donald McDermott will manage the office and will process food-stamp applications and answer questions about Community Action programs.

Representatives of various programs will be at the office here each day

Representatives from Western Massachusetts Legal Services and the Community Garden Service will be in the office on Mondays. The garden service finds gardening space for families which do not have land and organizes a vegetable-buying food cooperative.

The director of the Family Finances Program, which assists families with their budgeting and financial problems, will be in the office on Tuesdays.

The director of the Home Ownership Program, which assists people applying for Farmers Home Administration mortgage loans, will be in the office on Wednesdays.

A representative of the Family Planning Center on Thursdays will offer counseling and information on the center's services.

The director of the Rental Assistance Program will answer questions on the state rental-assistance program on Fridays.

The office has recently installed a telephone, and inquiries should be made directly to the office here, rather than through the Community Action office in Great Barrington.

Federal funds offered Lee to pay for 1st year of newly created jobs

10/18/74

LEE — Federal funds that could provide as many as five additional public-service jobs here for one year have been earmarked for the town and are available immediately, an official of the Berkshire Training and Employment Program (BTEP) told the Selectmen Monday.

Karon S. Thompson, South County counselor and job developer for the Pittsfield-based employment program, said that $17,234 in new funds, coupled with $2,758 in unspent monies remaining from an earlier grant, could be used to fund five nonprofessional positions or one professional and two nonprofessional jobs for one year.

Jobs in public agencies

Appropriated under provisions of the national Comprehensive Employment and Training Act, the funds are used to provide socio-economically disadvantaged persons with jobs in public agencies for a year at federal expense.

At the conclusion of that year, assuming that the employes have performed adequately, municipalities are supposed to take over paying the salaries out of local taxes.

Candidates apply for the positions through BTEP, which screens applicants and forwards the names of eligible persons to town officials, who do actual hiring.

Two persons placed under an earlier grant began working here last week. James L. Burns of South Lee was hired as a technical assistant to town Department of Public Works (DPW) Supt. J. Peter Scolforo at a salary of $10,000.

Roland Besaw of Columbia Street was named an audio-visual technician with the School Department at $7,000 annually.

Admitting that he was concerned about the town's ability to pick up added positions at the conclusion of the one-year training period, Selectman Martin H. Deely said that he and his colleagues would confer with members of the finance Committee before accepting additional federally-funded positions.

Town office janitor

Deely said that one position could be established requiring a janitor for a recently-purchased town office building on Railroad Street, but that the position wouldn't be needed until the middle of next year.

Additional positions could be established to aid Conservation Commission cleanup of town forestlands, such as the former Longcope property on Church Street, but those jobs might not be needed for more than a year, Deely said.

Conditions at the 45-acre forest given to the town in 1963 by Mrs. Warfield T. Longcope have come under criticism from her heirs and town officials are looking for ways to improve it.

Deely and Selectmen Edward F. Murray, who acted as chairman Monday in the absence of John J. Wheeler, said they would discuss possible positions with Finance Committee members next week.

Members of the School Committee, Assessors and DPW would also be asked to attend the Monday session, Deely said.

Other business

In other business Monday, Selectmen:

—Took under advisement two bids for repairs to the exterior of the Town Hall. Frank J. DuPont of Lee bid $3,457 for the job plus a $9-per-hour rate for any carpentry work not covered by bid specifications. Mayfair Roofing and Renovation Co. of Plainfield, Conn., bid $6,600, but added no extra rate for unspecified work.

—Granted a building permit for a utility shed to William J. Newton of Washington Mountain Road.

—Granted Greenock Country Club a Sunday entertainment license for Oct. 27.

Granted innkeeper's and common victualer's licenses to Morgan House owner Gary Devore.

—Set Nov. 4 as the opening date for bids for a new police cruiser.

—Granted sign permits to B&P Realty, allowing installation of new signs for

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Lee neighborhood plans replacement for trick-or-treat

LEE — Parents in the Bradley Street area have planned a party and two hayrides for children preschool-aged through Grade 8 to replace trick-or-treat activities Oct. 31.

Planned for children who live on Bradley, Mill, Sunshine, Woodland, Washington Mountain, Sturgis, Stringer and Valley streets, the events will be held at the Bradley Street school.

Children in preschool through Grade 4 will have a party at the school from 6 to 8. Hayrides for children in Grades 5-8, which will leave from the school, will be held from 6:30 to 8:30. Parental permission slips for the hayrides will be needed.

Parents who live in other parts of town have been asked not to bring their children to the Bradley Street area for trick-or-treat.

Federal funds last 1 year

10/23/74

Lee officials express reservations about town paying for make-work j

By Rebecca Rice

LEE — Members of the School Committee, Department of Public Works (DPW) and Finance Committee attended Monday's Selectmen meeting to discuss the possibility of using some $20,000 funded by the federally created Berkshire Training Employment Program (BTEP) to create new jobs for economically disadvantaged persons here.

The Selectmen and all members of the committees questioned whether the town needs more public-service jobs and expressed concern about the advisability of financing the positions after the one-year federal funding ceases.

Maurice Boulanger, superintendent of schools, said the position of remedial reading teacher for the school department was vacant and could be filled by a person employed through the BTEP.

Selectman Martin Deeley suggested that town departments submit suggestions for jobs which could be filled by an economically disadvantaged person in the BTEP program.

Meanwhile, Deeley asked the Finance Committee to determine whether the town could pay for the newly created jobs once federal funding ceased.

Other business

In other business last night, the Selectmen:

—Approved a request from Beverly Foley of Pease Terrace of the Lee Recycling Committee to consider terminating an arrangement with Robert Pedercini, contractor who picks up all newspapers from Lee townspeople for recycling. Mrs. Foley said she had spoken with a representative from U.S. Fiber Corp., who had agreed to pay the town $30 for every ton of newspapers. Mrs. Foley said U.S. Fiber had agreed to pick up the newspapers at the recycling shed. Mrs. Foley asked that the present recycling shed which is now on private land be moved to town property. The DPW agreed to move the shed.

—Appointed John DeVarennes of St. Mary's Avenue to fill a vacancy on the School Building Committee (SBC). The new appointment will give the SBC seven members.

—Drafted a letter to major businesses of Lee and GE in Pittsfield to find out what the present employment situation is and whether they anticipate any cut-backs or layoffs in the future.

—Granted a solicitor's license to the Seventh-Day Adventist Church on 212 Mountain Drive in Pittsfield, for the week of Nov. 2-10.

—Accepted an award addressed to "the youth of Lee for a most appropriate float in the West Stockbridge bicentennial parade on July 27. The youths who built the float were William DeFreest, Robert DeFreest, Michael Passetto and Brian Murray.

—Rejected a request
dits and Surveys, Inc.,
Ave. in New York Ci
duct a door-to-door au
John Wheeler, Selectm
man said the survey
be conducted over
phone.

—Named next Tu
date for special meeti
which DuPont Roofing
Mayfair Roofing and R
must present their
plans for the renovati
newly acquired town

Lee considers buying modular ambulance

LEE — Members of the Ambulance Committee, distressed by the low trade-in prices offered for their four-year-old ambulance, are looking at new ones that come in pieces.

Called modular ambulances, the new vehicles allow towns to trade in a worn-out chassis, but keep the bodies and equipment inside them.

Voters at the May town meeting authorized the committee to spend $15,250 to purchase a new ambulance, but so far the group has only been offered $500 for the one it has now. It cost $10,000 when bought in 1970.

Air conditioning required

Changes in state regulations governing the equipping of ambulances have caused the dramatic depreciation. New ambulances must have air conditioning, for example — which Lee's doesn't — and dealers are reluctant to accept as trade-ins ones that aren't so equipped.

Under the modular concept, however, ambulance groups wouldn't have to trade in the entire ambulance. They could unbolt the body from the chassis, offer the chassis to dealers in trade-in for use with any kind of truck body, and bolt the old ambulance body back onto a new chassis.

Ambulance Committee treasurer William E. Noonan says that those switches can be made three or four times before the body needs to be replaced. Consequently, he figures that its effective life is extended three or four times.

Noonan isn't certain how much new modular ambulances will cost. But he has priced one-ton truck chassis, and estimates that when it comes time to make the first switch, the chassis and the bolting-unbolting process will only cost $6,200.

Won't look different

The modular ambulances won't look any different than normal ones, Noonan says. They're simply designed to be taken apart, then put back together again.

The committee asked the Selectmen Monday to seek bids for the new ambulances, and heard them say that bids would be opened July 1. A delivery date won't be set until after the bids are returned and a vendor is chosen.

In the meantime, persons looking for a used ambulance for slightly more than $500 should contact Noonan. It only has 30,000 miles on its odometer.

30—The Berkshire Eagle, Thursday, Dec. 18, 1975

Name in the News

The manager

LEE

By day, John E. DeVarennes, 48, Navy veteran and 27-year employe of the General Electric Co., is manager of production control at GE's ordnance plant on Merrill Road in Pittsfield. He is the manager in charge of planning the work schedule for the plant's 300 employes who work on the fire-control system of the Trident missile.

By night, DeVarennes, father of nine, avid hunter, fisherman and boater, is the newly installed chairman of the Lee School Building Commission (SBC). He is in charge of the committee preparing plans for a new middle school, embroiled in the 10-year search for a place for the town's children in Grades 5-8.

The roles of GE executive and small-town official are far apart on the surface but closely intertwined underneath.

DeVarennes's committee has in the month of his stewardship adopted a basic management technique — the committee has sought to avoid direct debate and controversy by simply gathering and presenting facts for the decision-makers.

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

DeVarennes: Provider of information

"Yes, I guess we are using the decision-making methods we use here," DeVarennes said recently in an interview in the drab-green confines of his GE office.

"The SBC has been asked to provide information. We are in charge of providing facts. We have been given a mandate to draw up plans for a new middle school and a middle-school wing at the Central School that meet certain educational specifications. The town meeting representatives and the voters will use that information to make a final decision. I don't think we should take sides as a committee," DeVarennes said.

His style has differed from his predecessor, Alfred F. Turner, a guidance counselor at Lenox Memorial High School. Whereas Turner was very concerned about reaching a consensus on philosophical points, DeVarennes has minimized the importance of philosophical questions by saying that the SBC will simply formulate plans for new school facilities that meet the educational specifications at the lowest cost.

DeVarennes said that any fleshing-out of the plans will have to come from other town groups.

"If the DPW wants to include other streets in the area of the school on the sewer line for the new school, then the DPW will have to propose that. Any work on the bonds to fund the building will have to come from the Assessors, tax collector and town clerk. The SBC is just going to present the plans," he said.

DeVarennes said his reluctance to have his committee become a partisan in the debate on the selection of a new school comes from his experience as chairman of the town committee that studied forming a regional school district with Lenox, Otis and Tyringham in 1968.

DeVarennes argued strongly for regionalization, and the proposal was soundly defeated.

"The lesson I took away from the Regional School Study Committee is that I shouldn't have tried to be a salesman for the idea. I tried to convince the people of my personal thoughts and feelings. That's not what I should have done," he said.

DeVarennes's entrance into town politics came about because of the Boy Scouts, he said. He worked as assistant scoutmaster of the Lee Troop 54 for nine years after moving here from Lynn in 1959.

"I got into politics through my interest in the kidos. After Scouts, I wanted to see what else I could do for the kids. Also, I come from a large town, and moving to Lee gave me an opportunity to get involved with the community and the people in it," he said.

The entry point into politics was a seat on the School Committee, which DeVarennes ran for and won in 1966. He was on the committee for six years, serving as chairman for three.

He said he resigned in 1972 to devote more time to his family and because "the committee was taking too much of my time. We were then in the initial throes of our first negotiations with the teachers. I was spending more time worrying about how much a teacher would get paid and what days he would have off than I was about the educational side of the schools.

"I was also negotiating contracts at GE and I'd go home after nine hours in Pittsfield and do more of the same with the teachers. It was taking all of my time, so I resigned from the committee," DeVarennes said.

But an interest in kids and schools kept him in touch with the problems. "I have always been interested in the SBC, and I told the Selectmen that. When they filled the positions earlier this year, they asked me and I said yes," DeVarennes said.

When Turner resigned last month, DeVarennes was unanimously elected to the top spot. "No one else wanted the job and I couldn't see letting the whole project drift," he said. "The whole thing was afloat, and I thought I could provide the catalyst needed to pull it together."

135

Eagle 12/22/75

Lee school demolition starts despite weekend snowstorm

LEE — Despite the heavy snowfall, demolition of the condemned, 58-year-old southern wing of the Central School began as scheduled this weekend.

The building that served originally as the town's high school and most recently as the facility for Grades 5 through 8 stood this morning without windows and with a gaping chunk out of its southwest corner.

Workmen from Western Mass. Contracting Engineers, Inc., of Lee were on the job this morning despite the weather.

The start of work this weekend coincided with the start of Christmas vacation at the Lee schools. Specifications for the demolition call for the building to be down by the time classes reconvene on Jan. 5.

The wing was condemned last May by the School Committee and town building inspector Edward M. Briggs on the recommendation of Syracuse, N.Y. structural engineer Stuart H. Snyder.

Town officials are now preparing two plans for a new middle-school facility — either a building on Maple Street or a wing on the site of the southern wing.

Pupils in Grades 5-8 have been on double sessions since May 2.

Lee Bowling

The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, Dec. 30, 1975 — 9

Lee vote on school must be made without assurance of state aid

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — Because the state budget for new school construction is in doubt, voters here will have to decide whether to build a new $3.9 million middle school or a smaller $1.7 million Central School wing, without knowing how much the state will pay toward a new school building, officials here have learned.

The town's School Building Commission (SBC) had hoped to give the voters some indication of whether they could expect 53 per cent state funding of the new middle school. The state School Building Assistance Bureau (SBAB) has already said it will not help fund a Central School wing.

Local officials learned last week, however, that the SBAB will require voters to approve an article raising the entire $3.9 million cost of the new middle school before the SBAB will even consider funding the building project.

The SBC had hoped to present voters with an article stipulating that the money to build the new middle school would be raised only if aid was obtained from the state. But state officials said they would not consider funding a school approved by such an article.

If the town approved the article raising the money for the new school but subsequently did not receive any state aid and decided to cancel the project, then a town meeting would have to be called to rescind the article raising the money.

The SBAB's inability to tell the town its chances of receiving state aid before the town meeting vote represents a change in SBAB policy. In past cases, the SBAB has told towns if they will get state aid.

Budget blamed

Stephen Hart, the SBAB official who is handling Lee's plans, blamed the inability to inform Lee on the state's financial condition and the failure of the state legislature to pass a budget for new school construction in the next fiscal year.

"When the money is pulled out from under you, what can you do?" Hart said in a telephone interview from Boston yesterday. "There's not much you can do for a town until the boys in the state legislature pass a budget."

Hart also said that the state legislature must draw up a priorities list for new school construction. "The way things stand now, the people who have to resolve the problems of new school construction (the SBAB) don't have any answers," he said.

If the state did agree to help fund construction of the new middle school, the total cost to the town would be about $3.3 million under a 20-year financing plan. The cost of the Central School wing, which is not eligible for aid, would be about $3.5 million under a 20-year financing plan.

Approve plans

Voters will be asked sometime in the spring to decide on one of the two options to replace the condemned southern wing of the Central School. The new middle school would be built on Maple Street and the wing would be built on the site of the present southern wing.

Hart said yesterday that he would approve the preliminary plans for both the new school and the new wing on his next visit to Pittsfield early next month.

Town officials had planned to go to Boston to receive approval for their plans.

John E. DeVarennes, the chairman of the town SBC, said yesterday that approval of the plans by Hart in the Pittsfield office of the state Department of Education would mean that the plans could be brought to a town meeting vote sooner than expected.

Hart also said he realized the irony of the state's inability to give any indication on the town's chances for state aid jeopardizing the chances of a new school being approved. The official function of the SBAB is to advise and encourage the construction of new schools in the state.

3/20/1974

Lee zoning plan meets objections from Selectmen

By Ralph Brown

LEE — In the first major opposition to the town's proposed zoning bylaw revision voiced so far. Selectman John J. Wheeler Monday predicted a 3-1 margin of defeat for the measure if an apartment density of eight units per acre along Laurel Street is not reduced to the current level of four units per acre.

Additionally, Selectman chairman Martin H. Deely told Planning Board members that he didn't "see anything that protects us from where we were when we began this thing" in the proposed bylaw. Planners had gathered to hear the Selectmen's comments on the revision before preparing a final draft for inclusion in the town warrant.

"I think the present bylaw is sufficient," added Selectman Edward F. Murray. Apartment provisions in current zoning were drafted by the Selectmen last August after an earlier bylaw revision failed by six votes to win a necessary two-thirds town meeting majority.

Laurel Street, which is the local name for Route 20 from the bridge across the Housatonic River on Center Street north to Laurel Lake, lies in part in one of two proposed residential-multiple dwelling districts. The area involved (Laurel Street as far north as Theresa Terrace) has a mix of apartment buildings and single-family homes, but residents there have expressed considerable opposition to the August revision, which included provisions for additional apartments.

Although Planning Board members have received a significant amount of citizen reaction to the revision proposal — most of it positive — they have not yet spoken with Laurel Street residents.

Board chairman Jon H. Larson, however, has scheduled a study session for Laurel Street residents for tomorrow night. The meeting will be held at Larson's Theresa Terrace home, and will start at 7:30.

Deely voiced his concern that even a four-unit-per-acre density might permit construction of apartment developments similar to those that two years ago prompted the bylaw revision and a one-year moratorium on apartment construction.

During May and June of 1972, three developers brought plans to town proposing a total of 378 apartments on the east side. Zoning then permitted a density of 12 units per acre.

The zoning now in effect and that proposed for that part of town under the revision, would permit only four units per acre.

Murray's contention that current zoning provisions are sufficient was disputed by Larson, who said that reaction obtained through home study sessions was "overwhelmingly to the contrary."

"The feedback has not been what it was the last time," Larson said. "If you think no one is interested in getting apartments in Lee, you should go to some of these meetings."

"This proposal is not written with an eye to shutting out apartments, but to controlling them. And it's also written to get through the town and through the attorney general," Larson said. Town bylaw changes must be approved by a two-thirds majority at a town meeting and by the state attorney general, before taking force.

Deely also questioned proposed bylaw provisions permitting residential construction in business districts, and retail outlets in industrial districts. "I don't like to see an acre of good business land taken up by a single home," Deely said.

"And most good industrial planners say that traffic patterns caused by retail outlets are bad in an industrial zone," Deely said.

3/13/75

Lee voters favor westerly bypass

LEE — Voters here approved two special questions on yesterday's ballot, one pertaining to a bypass to the west of the town and one concerning beano games.

The bypass question was approved 342 to 224. It asked if voters favored the construction of a road to bypass the town by taking traffic from the Massachusetts Turnpike to the westerly side of the town to join Route 7.

The Selectmen indicated they would proceed with plans for the bypass but that the construction of such a road was still a long way off.

"The fact that 224 people voted against the measure indicates that we will have to hold a lot more public hearings and get a lot more input," Selectman Martin H. Deely said last night.

The beano question, which is on the ballot of every town in the state, asked whether townspeople favor granting "licenses for the operation, holding or conducting" of the game. It was approved 454 to 94.

137

To be topic tonight

Eagle 12-16-75

Book on death proposed for Lee High

LEE — The School Committee tonight will discuss adding to the high school curriculum a book which offers a frank discussion of death, including the specific topics of abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, suicide and American funeral practices.

The book, entitled "Death," would be part of a psychology course taught by Robert Spear Discussion of the book would take about a week in the ½-year long course, which is open to seniors About 60 students usually take the course.

The book is expected to generate some controversy tonight. Several School Committee members said in the past two days that they were not sure the book should be used The members said they feared the book was too advanced for high school students.

"It definitely would not have been taught when I went to school," C. Marcel Brunell said yesterday. "But things have changed and maybe these things should be taught. I don't know. I'll have to talk to someone in school now before we discuss it."

The most controversial section of the book is the discussion on abortion. That section includes essays from the Boston Women's Health Book Collective, arguing for abortion, and from James P. Shannon, a former priest and frequent writer for Catholic Church publications, arguing against abortion

The most controversial parts of the abortion section are an actual-size picture of a 20-week old fetus and a picture of a garbage can filled with aborted fetuses between the ages of 18 weeks and 24 weeks.

Supt. Maurice J. Boulanger said yesterday that he was for ncluding the book in the curiculum. "These are subjects hat are in the newspapers all he time. The Edelin abortion case in Boston and the Quinlan right-to-die case in New Jersy are just two recent examples," he said

Spears said this morning he had been teaching the aspects of death dealt with in the book "for the past five years. But we've never had a book before

"This is a good book," Spears said. "The important thing to remember about the book is that it isn't one person writing his opinions about a subject. It is a collection of essays. One article speaks on one side of an issue, and the next article gives the opposite view."

The book also features a chapter in each section dealing with the veracity and objectivity of an article. Study questions proceed each article, allowing the student to know what central themes to look for in each section.

Group offers to sing carols to shut-ins

BECKET — The Becket Federated Church choir of children's carolers is offering to sing Christmas carols to shut-ins in the community. Arrangements can be made for the group to visit homes by calling the church office.

Lee school board okays text on death

Continued from Page 1

ding his life and that the way the material is presented might unduly influence an individual student's view of the issue.

"I want to make sure that any decision on any of these topics, either pro or con, is made by the individual student," Graham said. "I want to make sure there are no straw poll votes taken in a class that might influence the way a student thinks."

School Committee Chairman Henry G. Greiner placated Murray and Graham, saying:

"I'm sure the book will be presented objectively and that the teacher (Robert Spear) will have the students form opinions in their own minds. It is easy to get wrong information on the things discussed in the book. It is frequently in the papers and on television. If we teach it in school, then we can be sure the students get the facts right."

Greiner also pointed out to Murray that the psychology course in which the book will be discussed for about 10 days in the half-year-long course is elective. Murray said he was not aware that the course was elective.

Greiner added that a student had the right not to attend a class that discussed a topic he or his parents did not want him exposed to. Christopher Hodgkins, a senior and president of the Student Council, said he had read the book and was in favor of its being used.

"If we can't handle a book like this, then when are we going to grow up?" Hodgkins asked.

The final School Committee vote on the book was five voting for its use and Marguerite Tristany abstaining.

"I am completely for use of the book," Miss Tristany said. "I am abstaining because we don't review any other textbooks and I don't think we should be voting on this one."

Eagle 1/22/7

Lunch director Janet Trinkaus
"Storage deplorable"

Committee chairman William F. Tyer Jr.
"We'll find space"

Ralph E. Brown

SAC members Cheryl A. Cuevas, left, and Peter C. Hayden
"Set up a school store"

Storage space said inadequate at Lee High

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — The director of the school lunch program and two members of the high school student-advisory council last night asked members of the School Committee to find new storage space at the high school — or elsewhere in town.

"Existing storage space is deplorable for a lunch program of this size," said director Janet Trinkaus. "I frequently cannot get discounts for buying in quantity because I don't have the space to store it once its delivered."

Storage in one room is hampered, she added, because compressor units for refrigerators and freezers boost temperatures in the room above *those* suggested for storage of canned goods and grains.

Lack dehumidifiers

Additionally, storage conditions in refrigerators and freezers is unsatisfactory because the units lack dehumidifiers to remove excess moisture from foods placed there, she explained.

High school seniors Cheryl A. Cuevas and Peter C. Hayden, whose visit to the committee session last night represented the first official contact between the two groups in more than a year, told school officials that the council wanted space to open a school store.

The pair suggested that desks and chairs currently stored in a room at the high school be transferred to the basement of the South Lee school, freeing the high school room for use as a store.

In addition to school sweaters and jackets and class rings, articles made by council sponsored student clubs would be sold through the outlet, Miss Cuevas said.

Built for 600

Committee members said that little unused space exists at the high school. Built in 1962 to house a maximum of 600 students, the building this year is being used by a student population nearing 650.

But the group asked members C. Marcel Brunell and Henry Greiner to examine existing and alternative solutions to storage needs to find space for the students and the lunch program.

Committee chairman William F. Tyer Jr., noting that the town last year had purchased additional office space on Railroad Street, suggested that the subcommittee not confine its search for space to school buildings, but look at other town-owned ones.

Committee members, noting that other area schools had permitted student-run stores to be established, asked Hayden and Miss Cuevas to return with a written program for operation of one here.

Other business

In other business, committee members:

—Heard Mrs. Trinkaus ask that the group consider providing health-insurance and sick-day provisions for part-time kitchen workers.

—Authorized summer school director G. David Wells to open the four-week session this year July 1 and close it Aug. 7.

—Told Wells to suspend a decision to offer a six-week summer remedial English program until he could determine how many students would take it this year.

—Said that committee attorney Arthur Stein had filed a request for interpretation with the state Labor Relations Commission concerning provisions of a new state law permitting administrators to be excluded from collective-bargaining agreements.

—Tabled to permit further consideration a job-description for a liason position between the high-school house-building program and classroom teachers.

—Turned down a request from School Supt. Maurice J. Boulanger to reduce the height of a flagpole at the high school from 65 feet to 35 feet. Boulanger said the move would lower maintenance costs; committee members disagreed.

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3 men rob

UPI Telephoto

TROPHY AND CONGRATULATIONS are received by John Consolati, right, of Lee from Roger Walsh, president of the Massachusetts Baseball Coaches' Association upon Consolati's induction into the Massachusetts Baseball Coaches' Hall of Fame Saturday at Waltham High School. Consolati, Lee High athletic director and football coach, was the baseball mentor for 25 years as well as basketball coach. He was a baseball star at Lee High and at the University of Massachusetts

Eagle 2/13/75

Consolati is inducted into coaches' shrine

John Consolati, Lee High School athletic director and football coach and former baseball and basketball mentor, was inducted into the Massachusetts Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame at ceremonies Saturday at Waltham High. The induction was in conjunction with the organization's annual baseball clinic.

Nineteen friends and relatives of the well-known area sports figure were present at Consolati's table to see him receive the state honor. In the group were Carl Ross, a Lee native and former Lee High teacher and Consolati's high school coach, now living in New Hampshire, and Bill Powers of Boston, a former standout athlete at Lee under Consolati.

Baseball coaches from Berkshire County who attended were Dick Lenfest and Pete Warywoski of Lee High, Bud Pellerin and Matt Jacoby of Pittsfield High, Mike Farrell and Mike Robinson of Hoosac Valley High, Joe Zavattaro of North Adams State College, Dalton American Legion coach Jim Guinan and Tyler Aces Legion team manager Dave "Ollie" Cohen.

Featured clinic speakers were former major-league player and manager Sam Mele, now with the Boston Red Sox organization, and Loyal Park and John Carroll, coaches at Harvard University and Natick High respectively.

Former major leaguer Lenny Merullo spoke at the clinic dinner. He explained the new scouting bank, which will be used by 17 big-league teams. Merullo will be the New England supervisor.

Name in the news

2/7/74

Man looking for answers

LEE

Ralph E. Brown

Tyer: Can be partisan

"The best way to find an answer to something," School Committee Chairman William F. Tyer Jr. said the other day over lunch, "is to get involved in the question."

That fact that he said "find" — not "decide", "think up" or "determine" — is significant because it reflects Tyer's belief that the answers he's looking for are those drawn out of other people, rather than ones conjured up inside himself.

Tyer, who is also chairman of the Democratic town committee, has gotten himself involved in several questions facing Lee during the past few years — reservoirs, sewers, zoning — but the one that has consumed him is education.

"His seven kids stimulated his initial interest in the schools," says fellow School Committee member C. Marcel Brunell, "but the excitement of developments in education have switched that initial interest to a continuing one."

* * * *

Tyer came to the School Committee in 1969, just after Lee voters had defeated the latest of several attempts to establish a regional school district, this one with Lenox, Tyringham and Otis, but just before a subsequent town meeting resurrected the proposal. He became the committee's delegate to the new regional study group, and suggested that it explore what he felt to be a sadly neglected part of South - Central Berkshire education — vocational training.

"I was really tickled to see him pick up on that," says Maurice J. Boulanger, Lee superintendent of schools. "When administrators ask for new programs, reaction is usually 'there goes that damned educator wanting more money.' But Bill is a layman — he's not a 'damned educator' — his support of a program like this gives it something we can't."

The attempt at regionalized vocational education also failed, two years later, but Tyer, who tries to look ahead rather than behind, hasn't let that failure jeopardize his concern. He raised the idea of a regional vocational center — one that supplements local schools, instead of supplanting them — a concept that would have Lee students take English in Lee schools but travel to the center for vocational classes. And his method of getting the project under way is quintessentially Tyer: "I'll get people together to talk about it. They'll come up with the ideas that'll make it work."

Not that the 49-year-old telephone - crew supervisor doesn't have a few ideas of his own — he does; his passion for vocational training marks that clearly.

"He listens to people he's working with," says Robert Bierwith, a colleague on the regional study group. "He considers what others say, but he also lets you know what he thinks — what he believes."

* * * *

Selectman Martin H. Deely, who grew up within a block of Tyer, agrees. "He can be partisan," Deely says, "but he's a constructive partisan. And that's not an especially easy thing to be in a small town."

"But you know," says Brunell, who ranks Tyer as the most aggressive and thoughtful of the four school committee chairmen he's served with, "Bill's got the ability to keep things on an even keel; he steers things away from personal points of view to ones that are objective, ones that will get a job done."

The job Tyer wants now to get done is selling the concept of regionalism—a word he dislikes because of its connotations but accepts because of its natural force.

"Look," he says, "if you can't find an answer by yourself, you get help. Where's the best place to get help? Involve your neighbors. That's regionalism."

That's also Bill Tyer.

Thomas P. Ryan

Foxhollow names new headmaster

LENOX — Thomas P. Ryan has been named the next headmaster of Foxhollow School.

Ryan, who is currently in his first year as comptroller and teacher of social studies at Foxhollow, will assume the position in July, when Mrs. Thomas D. Mumford retires.

Ryan, 31, was born in Syracuse, N.Y., and graduated from St. Michael's College with a B.A. in history and from the University of Vermont with a master's degree in education.

Ryan served as chairman of the history department at Bordentown/Lenox last year. He has also taught in the Buffalo, N.Y., public school system and at the Manlius School, now the Manlius-Pebble Hill School, in DeWitt, N.Y. While he was a graduate student, he worked as an administrative intern and educational consultant for the Vermont Department of Education.

1/30/74

Lee Selectmen encourage plan to expand recreation services

LEE — The director of the town's summer playground program last night presented to the Selectmen a plan to increase recreational and youth services in the town.

The Selectmen gave Douglas Wilcox of Silver Street some encouragement and urged him to further develop the proposal

"This is an excellent proposal, but something like this comes up every four or five years and nothing happens. You need more planning," Selectman Martin H. Deely told Wilcox.

Wilcox's proposal calls for the creation of a Department of Recreation with an annual budget of $4,500. The department would be headed by a seven-member board and a director of recreation.

The salary of the director would be paid for by the federal Comprehensive Training and Employment Act program. Wilcox recommended himself for the position of director.

The director would be responsible for planning and administering a broad recreational program for the town as well as coordinating the activities of the five major areas Wilcox identified as the providers of recreation in town. The five are municipal recreation facilities, voluntary agencies (such as the Boy Scouts, YMCA and 4-H clubs), the library, commercial recreation facilities and the schools.

Wilcox also stressed that the director should develop a program involving all agencies concerned with juvenile delinquency and other youth problems. He said he hoped a council on youth and a drop-in center could be started in town.

He also stressed that the director should develop more programs for local girls.

The Selectmen said they would contact CETA officials and urge them to approve the funding for Wilcox in the director's position, so that he might further plan the program. Wilcox said he would become eligible for a CETA salary around Sept. 20.

Under CETA guidelines, Wilcox must be unemployed for 30 days before he can be placed on the CETA program.

In other business last night, the Selectmen:

— Granted a one-year permit to Daniel Sullivan of Barritt Oil Co. to store 65,000 gallons of motor oil in a tank on the new site of his business on Railroad Street. He will have to build a dike equal to the capacity of the tank within the year in order to receive the permanent permit, the Selectmen said. The dike is insurance that leaking oil won't pollute neighboring land or water.

— Received a request from the County Commissioners for possible sites for the new house of correction. The Selectmen indicated they would suggest that the jail be built in Pittsfield because of that city's central location.

— Heard a plea from Elizabeth Thorne of the Regular Folks antique store on Center Street that she be allowed to hang a sign outside her shop. The Planning Board said her present sign was a bylaw violation because it hangs more than 10-inches from her store. The Selectmen suggested she appeal to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Lee church sets Bible meditation with wine, cheese

LEE — St. George's Episcopal Church will hold a wine-and-cheese-tasting-Bible-meditation Wednesday at 7:30 at the Franklin Street parish house

The evening will conclude with a Third Rite Service of Holy Communion.

The service will be led by the members of the Western Massachusetts diocesan vacation church school team who have been leading a session at the church for 10 days. The team is under the direction of Noreen Suriner and includes Betsy Bellows, Christopher Carlisle, Bruce Parent and Elizabeth Rathbone.

The Wednesday night affair is open to the public.

Ralph E. Brown

Deely: "an old, outdated concept"

Tyer: money the issue, not fiscal autonomy

Lee Selectmen, School Committee lock horns over issue of School-district fiscal autonomy

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — Three School Committee members charged last night that the Selectmen's endorsement of a move that could ultimately strip fiscal autonomy from school committees "implies that there's something wrong in Lee."

"You're implying that we have something to do with the cost of schools," School Committee chairman William F. Tyer Jr. told the Selectmen. "But the most important part of school costs are caused by the legislature.

"Have you gone to the legislature? Have you asked them about the operation of special education funding? Have you asked the governor and the legislature to do something about transporation costs?" Tyer asked.

"I would hope that you, as the leaders of this town, would use your good office to talk to the legislature, to work, to improve the financing of schools in the commonwealth. We don't need fiscal autonomy — we need money," Tyer said.

* * * *

Tyer's words and those of committee members Henry Greiner and Marguerite M. Tristany came in response to a decision by Selectmen last week to place on the May town ballot a measure asking voters if they felt town meetings should be given the authority to reduce proposed school budgets.

They also come during preparation of the fiscal 1975 school budget. Figures presented to the committee two weeks ago indicate that Lee school costs will rise to nearly $1.9 million, up approximately 20 per cent from the calendar 1973 budget.

Currently, town meetings can vote only to accept or reject complete budgets prepared by school committees. Individual items within those budgets cannot be reduced or deleted.

If a town meeting does reduce a school budget, the school committee can bring suit to have the funds restored. If the committee wins the suit, and it usually does, the town must pay a penalty fee equal to 25 per cent of the deleted funds. That penalty goes into the following year's school budget.

* * * *

"I think that School Committee fiscal autonomy is an old, outdated concept," said Selectmen chairman Martin H. Deely. "I think it is elitist; I think it flies in the face of the idea of a town meeting — the most democratic form of government we know.

"I make no secret about my feelings toward it. I think the concept says that town representatives don't have the intelligence to vote on a school budget," Deely said.

"The purpose of our question is to find out what the voters think about fiscal autonomy. If the vote shows that people want it, then I'll shut up," Deely said.

"The purpose of our question is to find out what the voters think about fiscal autonomy. If the vote shows that people want it, then I'll shut up," Deely said.

The vote, whether approved or not, will have no legal effect; only the legislature can grant such authority. But Selectmen said last week that they feel the measure will provide a sampling of public opinion on the issue.

* * * *

Perennial attempts by associations of local leaders to change the system by legislative action have been unsuccessful, but those attempts haven't sought the opinion of local residents.

Committee members also appealed to the Selectmen to communicate with them on school issues more directly than through newspaper accounts.

"Let's talk about these things before I read about them at home," Greiner said, "because when I read it in the paper I'll probably read things into that you didn't intend."

"I would have preferred that you approached us about this matter first," added Miss Tristany. "I don't think it does much to see two town boards at odds with each other."

"Come to our meetings," Tyer said, adding that he is favor of legislation that would make the chairman of the Selectmen a member of the School Committee.

Lee High graduates 132 seniors

LEE — One hundred and thirty-two seniors were graduated from Lee High School Saturday in afternoon ceremonies held at the Tanglewood Music Shed in Lenox.

Principal Robert Lucy announced awards and scholarships granted to 40 students as follows:

Lee Kiwanis Club Scholarships, $1,000 to Tamera Wheeler and $400 to Cindy Van Zandt. Lee Lime Corp, $800 each to Stephen Glomb, Robert Boynton and Mary Kate Birge. Adams Super Market Scholarship, $500 to Cynthia Wilkinson.

The March of Dimes Scholarship, $500 each to Annmarie Baldisserotto and Lynn Masiero. The Lee Education Association, $250 each to Ruth Stewart and Donna Gibbons. Lee Band Parents Club Scholarship, $150 each to Noreen Trombly and Sue North.

* * * *

Petricca Construction Co., $200 to Sandra Cummings. Sportsmen's Club Scholarship, $250 to Lynn Masiero. Sons of Italy Scholarship, $200 to Leon Consolati. Lee High Student Council Scholarship, $100 to Nancy Polastri. Abner Rice Memorial Scholarship, $275 to Noreen Trombly.

Otis Parent-Teacher Organization, $250 to Karen Bedding. Lee High School Drama Club Scholarship, $150 to Mary Besaw. Knights of Columbus Scholarship, $150 to Alexis Lovato. Otis Kiwanis Club Scholarship, $200, Karen Bedding.

Basketball Coaches of Berkshire County Scholarship, $350 each to Wayne Ciullo and George J. Serra. Greenock Country Club Scholarship, $100 to Eric Boulanger. Women's Auxiliary to Medical Professions, $150 to Annmarie Baldisserotto.

Lee High School French Club Scholarships, $50 each to Stephen Glomb, Maggie Bach, Karen Bedding and Nancy Boyne. East Lee Civic Association, $100 to Kathy Roosa. Lee Theatre Players, $25 to Nancy Polastri. Lee High Art Department Scholarship, $100 to Maggie Bach.

Sanka Co. Art Scholarship, $50 to Christine Velez. Dennis Fontana Memorial Scholarship, $100 to Deborah Herbert. Michael Whalen Memorial Scholarship, $100 to Margaret Stumbaugh. Bruce Stevenson Memorial Scholarship, $100 to Robert Anderson.

Arthur Delson Memorial Scholarship, $25 each to Thomas Savery and William DeFreest. Raymond Dignard Memorial Scholarship, $250 to Sue North. Eugenio Bonafin Award, $50 to Thomas Savery.

* * * *

In class day exercises held Friday afternoon at the high school gym, the following awards were presented:

Rensselaer mathematics and science award, Deborah Sorrentino; Austonoog Chapter, DAR, medal for excellence in American History, Laurel Ferrelli; medal for outstanding work in commercial subjects, Cindy Van Zandt.

Certificate for outstanding work in shorthand, Diane Buffoni; medal for excellence in French, Stephen Glomb, Margaret Bach, Clare Boulanger and Brenda Van Orman; DAR Good Citizen Award, Cindy Wilkinson; Ardella Donnell memorial award, Joseph Palardy.

Dramatics club awards, Laurel Ferrelli, Mary Besaw, Nancy Polastri, David Winn, Leon Consolati, Cindy Wilkinson, Lois Loring, Leah Duby, Stephen Clomb and Paul Bach.

Excellence in art, Maggie Bach and Christine Velez; student government representative certificate, Robert Anderson; golden hammer for superior work in industrial arts, David Dewkett; merit for building construction, David Comalli.

Industrial arts medal for most improved student, Nancy Huggins; Allan Wurtzbach memorial award, Robert Carlino, William DeFreest and Robin Hood; American Legion public-speaking medal, Kim Thomas; award for excellence in Latin, Mary Kate Birge.

Mathematics Association of America award, Stephen Glomb; Massachusetts Association of Mathematics League certificate of merit, Stephen Glomb; Reader's Digest certificate of award, Stephen Glomb; John Philip Sousa award, Robert Boynton; Miss Leda Stratton dictionary, Michele Pascucci.

The graduates:

Class of 1974

Christine Marie Abele
Robert S. Anderson
Marc C. Avigo
Margaret Bach
Antonette Lee Bagnaschi
Annmarie Baldisserotto
Mark A. Bartini
Stephen Joseph Bartini
Kenneth Bartow
Virginia Ann Beckwith
Karen Andrea Bedding
Kenneth Lee Berry
Lynn M. Bertelli
Mary Agnes Besaw
Rita Marie Bettega
Mary Katherine Birge
Lynn Marie Blake
Eric A. Boulanger
Nancy Jean Boyne
William T. Boyne
Robert D. Boynton, Jr.
Grace Louise Brazee
Jennie Laura Brazee
Donald D. Brighenti
Deborah Ann Broderick
George A. Brooks, Jr.
Diane Marie Buffoni
Robert James Carlino
Dawn Marie Cernik
Wayne M. Ciullo
Lee Ann Collins
David T. Comalli
Leon John Consolati
John Cornaggia
Charles Crandall
Eugene Cuene
Roberta Lynn Cummings
Sandra Jean Cummings
Robert J. De Freest
William J. De Freest
Susan Jean Dellert
Harry Joseph Desmond
Michael William Devanny
Jean A. De Varennes
David E. Deveneau
Donald G. Dewkett
Cheryl Ann Dobson
Leah M. Duby
Robert Thomas DuPont
Stephen Charles du Pont
Pamela June Fillio
Valerie Sears Finch
Michael L. Ford
Sharon Lee Fromma
Andrea Marie Frulla
David Garner
Donna Marie Gibbons
Stephen J. Glomb
James Harte
James Martin Graham
Arlette I. Haskins
Paul Haywood
Cynthia Jean Henriques
Deborah Ann Herbert
William G. Hickey
Theodore L. Hitchcock
Laurie Feltre Hoff
Robin M. Hood
Nancy Evelyn Huggins
Allan W. Johnston
Linda A. Joyner
Daniel Keenan
William Koperek
Dawn Ellen La Duke
Lois Margaret Loring
Alexis Rose Lovato
Elizabeth Anne Mac Donald
Brenda Mackie
Annmarie Marsden
Deborah Martin
Lynn Marie Masiero
Katrina J. Mc Inally
Michael John Mc Laughlin
Donna M. Miraglia
Kim Noreen Mitchell
Kevin J. Morandi
Donald Moretz
Katherine Marie Mottarella
Lisa Ann Mountain
Kathleen Marie Mulloney
Donald Alexander Murray III
Susan Marie North
Mark O'Leary
Michael P. O'Leary
Michael Devane O'Neill
Joseph B. Palardy
Michele Jeanne Pascucci
Nancy Alma Polastri
Marie Pompi
William Poulin
Sharon Louise Rathbun
Rhona A. Rawling
Kathleen Roberts
Jacqueline Mary Rocke
Kathleen Marie Roosa
Thomas James Savery
George James Serra
Denise M. Silkey
Gary J. Silkey
Daniel D. Slater
Ruth Evelyn Stewart
Susan M. Stugger
Margaret M. Stumbaugh
Kim Diane Thomas
Brian Toomey
Noreen Ann Trombly
Thomas William Tyer
Madeline Ann Ubertini
Cindy Lee Van Zandt
Michael John Van Zandt
Sue Ellen Vecchia
Christine M. Velez
Monica Anne Vogl
Diane Lynn Walker
James A. Walker
Robert J. Walker
Marlisa Nan Webb
Tamera Lee Wheeler
Kathryn Whitehouse
Cynthia Diane Wilkinson
Deborah Ann Williams
Alan John Zerbato

Savoy authori

Berk Herald 2/20/74

John Waring

LEE ESSAY WINNERS — Edith Stedman (right), president of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Bossidy-Crerar VFW Post in Lee, presented awards last week to the winners of the local unit's essay contest on "What America Means to Me." Receiving a $25 savings bond for his first place essay is Matt Glomb. Kerri Collins (center) was awarded $10 for second prize and Kathy Williams won the $5 third prize. Raymond B. Kavey (left), junior high school principal, said that 95 essays were submitted by 7th and 8th grade students.

THE BERKSHIRE HERALD — MARCH 6, 1974

OFF TO FLORIDA —The Lee High Band and Majorettes left March 6 for Disneyworld, where they will perform in a parade and concert this Friday. The students and their 23 chaperons will return to Lee on Monday. Funds for the trip were raised by the band members and the Band Parents Club.

Repair advanced for Lee school wing

June 4, 1974

LEE — Town Building Inspector Edward M. Briggs told the Selectmen last night that several contractors have told him that the condemned junior high wing of Central School can be repaired for $100,000.

Briggs said the repair plans put forward would not require removing the roof, and could be completed within two months.

State Building Inspector James T. Goggins ordered school officials to "discontinue" use of the building on June 20, following an inspection of deteriorating roof supports in March.

Briggs said the plan called for removing the heavy 1½-inch plaster ceilings in the building, replacing the ceiling joists and hanging lighter suspended ceilings in place of the old ones.

Contractors approached him with the plans, Briggs said, to relieve the need for double sessions planned for Grades 5-8 this fall. Briggs would not name the contractors, saying that "they might want to bid on the project."

Meeting is called

Selectman Martin H. Deely, who said he supported such citizen response to the school problem, asked Briggs if he and the contractors would meet with the Selectmen next week to discuss plans and costs for the project.

Deely said the measure could be placed on the warrant for the special town meeting scheduled for June 27, but that the article would have to be submitted by petition.

Briggs said he would discuss the plan with School Building Commission chairman Alfred F. Turner, and would meet with members of the School Committee at the group's meeting scheduled for tonight.

Building Inspector Edward M. Briggs

Lee board moves to demolish junior-high wing

6/5/74

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — In swift, sharp reaction to a day-old move to repair the condemned junior-high wing of Central School, School Committee members last night told the School Building Commission (SBC) to seek bids for the "complete demolition" of the former high school.

Coming on a unanimous vote, the committee decision also specified that bids be returned to the SBC by June 26, one day before a special town meeting, and that the SBC submit to the Selectmen a warrant article seeking funds for the demolition.

Briggs proposal

The action came in response to a proposal by Town Building Inspector Edward M. Briggs, who told the Selectmen Monday that several contractors had told him that the wing can be repaired for $100,000.

Briggs said the repair plans offered would not require removing the roof, but would remove the heavy 1½-inch plaster ceilings, replace the ceiling joists and hand lighter, suspended ceilings in place of the old ones.

Briggs declined to name the contractors who had approached him with the proposal, saying that "they might want to bid on the project."

Selectman Martin H. Deely, who expressed his support for such citizen response to the school problem, said that the proposal could be placed on the warrant for the special town meeting but that the article would have to be submitted by petition.

School Committee members, many of whom are opposed to spending any funds on the deteriorating, 57-year-old wing, last night expressed doubts that such a repair project would be feasible.

Citing reports by State Building Inspector James T. Goggins, who condemned the building in March, and John H. Fisher, the Pittsfield architect who is concluding a survey of all Lee school buildings, committee members said that satisfactory repairs would be so extensive as to require removing the roof and completely gutting the building.

"We can hire six or seven more architects and they'll all tell us the same thing," said committee Chairman William F. Tyer Jr.

The decision to seek demolition bids originated in a discussion of potential locations for the junior-high woodworking-shop program this fall. The shop now sits in the basement of the condemned wing.

Committee members have yet to decide whether to shore up the roof of the wing, which would allow the shop to remain in the basement, or to find a new location for the program.

Tyer, saying that moving the shop program from the basement would seriously hamper it, suggested razing the junior-high wing to ground level and putting a temporary roof over the basement. Such a plan would permit the woodworking shop to stay where it is until a new building is erected, Tyer said.

Elective shop program

But committee member Marguerite M. Tristany, who opposes spending any funds to restore the wing, does not want to see it used at all. She suggested making one year of the junior high shop program an elective one, rather than mandatory, as it is now.

Such a move would lessen the space needed for the program, she said, perhaps permitting it to be moved to the high school shop.

Member James M. Graham also urged moving the program to the high school shop, and suggested that money spent to provide a temporary roof at the junior high basement would be better spent adding shop-shortage and equipment facilities at the high school.

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26—The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, April 17, 1973

Larry Burns

LEE SELECTMEN Edward Murray points to a map of the town's sanitary landfill site at a meeting with town officials and engineers. Pictured from the left are Joseph Moynihan, an engineering consultant, Lester Clark of the Board of Health, Frank Macy of Lane Construction Co., Murray, Selectman Martin H. Deely, and J. Peter Scolforo, superintendent of public works. Meeting is in Lee Selectmen's office.

Lee proposes 20-year plan for landfill

LEE — The Selectmen last night instructed engineers from Robert G. Brown & Associates to proceed with surveying of the landfill site and nearby land owned by Lane Construction Co. in order to draw a 20-year plan for dump use.

Lane officials agreed two weeks ago to let the town use the company's land for a sanitary landfill operation, to start in about five years.

To expand surveying

Selectmen Chairman Martin H. Deely said he told Joseph Moynihan of the engineering company to continue work that the Board of Health had earlier commissioned and to expand the surveying to include the Lane property. He asked for a plan for the next 20 years, instead of five.

The firm's Lenox Dale manager, Frank Macy, cautioned the Selectmen and health officials, however, not to submit definite plans to the state Board of Health, which approves all sanitary landfill operations, because the town might want to use a different site in five years.

The Lane property is adjacent to the present landfill site off Willow Hill Road. Macy explained that while his firm continually excavates gravel from the Lane property, he could not promise that excavation would end up near the dump after five years.

Selectman John J. Wheeler said he didn't want to build roads "from one little hole to another," but Macy said only large excavations would be offered, whether near the present dump or not.

Board of Health Chairman Charles Stratton advised the Selectmen that state law sets a maximum depth of landfill excavations to a point four feet above the watertable. Macy said that his company has always limited its diggings to above the watertable for cost reasons, and that no bottom fill would be necessary to bring the level up to four feet.

The Selectmen had wanted complete projections for the next 20 years, but Moynihan said it was unrealistic to plan more than five years ahead.

3-15-73

Larson appointed to seat on Lee Planning Board

LEE — Jon Larson, 31, of Theresa Terrace was appointed Monday to fill a vacancy on the Planning Board created in January, when James Wright moved to New Jersey.

Lawrence S. Burns

Jon Larson

Larson's term will run until the annual elections in May 1974. He was chosen at a joint meeting of the Planning Board and the Selectmen.

Other candidates were Mrs. Merrick Bradbury of East Street, John L. Piacquadio of Fairview Street and Walter J. Terlik of Theresa Terrace.

Split vote

Planning Board members Francis D. Foley Jr. and William B. Navin voted for Larson, Charles Holmes voted for Mrs. Bradbury and Raymond Benton voted for Terlik. Selectmen Martin H. Deely and John J. Wheeler agreed to support the board's majority decision and voted for Larson. Selectman Edward F. Murray abstained because, he said, he had never met Terlik.

Both the boards were eligible to vote on Wright's replacement, Deely said, because the Planning Board is an elected body.

Chairman Foley expressed appreciation for the fact that the vote was split. He said that for many years the board had voted as a block, but this year "the candidates were all so good" the members could not agree on who was best qualified.

Ran for Housing Authority

Larson was an unsuccessful Democratic candidate for a five-year term on the Housing Authority in last month's election.

Larson is a registrar at Berkshire Community College, Pittsfield. He received a bachelor's degree from Norwich University, Northfield, Vt., and a master's degree in government and politics from the University of Maryland. He is teaching a course in government at BCC.

New housing proposed in Lee

Eagle 9-11-73

LEE — The Planning Board last night heard a proposal by Richard March to put one- and two-family houses on about 15 acres of land bordered by Prospect Street, St. James Avenue and the Housatonic River.

March, who owns a plumbing and heating business and a real estate business in Pittsfield, told the board he plans to erect pre-cut structures.

Up to $44,000

He said the one-family houses would sell for about $25,000 and two-family homes for about $44,000.

He mentioned a possible maximum of 36 family units. The possibility of a subdivision was left uncertain. The area lies on the west side of the Housatonic River, opposite the center of town. St. James Avenue is a dead-end street running north from West Park Street and Prospect lies further west, running from West Park through to Summer Street. New sewer lines are now being installed on both St. James Avenue and Prospect Street.

March last night asked only for approval of building permits for two model structures which he wants to put on Prospect Street.

The board postponed a decision on the matter until March has the sites marked on his plot plans.

Also at last night's meeting the board approved Gerald Drake's plan to erect a $5,000 storage shed next to his auto parts business on Meadow Street.

The Planning Board met briefly in an executive session voted on the grounds that personalities were to be discussed.

The planners announced they will interview applicants for the vacancy on the board at next week's regular meeting. The Selectmen will make the final appointment at their Sept. 24 meeting.

The Planning Board will meet tonight to consider Eugene Delvecchio's plan to expand his Leisure Lee Development near Goose Pond.

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The Berkshire Eagle, Thursday, March 9, 1972—15

legional Proposal

Quorum of 50 Required For Lee Open Meeting

LEE — The Selectmen are stressing that the special town meeting on the Lee-Lenox-Tyringham regional school proposal will be "an open meeting in which all residents may participate."

The formal opening of the meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Lee Central School. A quorum of 50 residents will be necessary to act.

Residents will discuss a single article, which is to set up a tri-town regional school district. The business meeting will then adjourn until Friday for a ballot vote on the article.

The polls Friday will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Central School. Simultaneous votes will be held in Lenox and Tyringham.

Selectman Martin H. Deely said that although Lee has a representative town meeting, this session will be open to all residents. Members of the Regional School Planning Committee will present the proposal and answer questions.

All voters also are eligible to vote in Friday's day-long balloting, he said.

3/22/73

The Berkshire Eagle, Thurs

Foley to resign as head of Lee Planning Board

LEE — Francis D. Foley Jr. said last night he will resign as chairman of the Planning Board in August.

Foley, who will remain on the board until his term expires in 1976, said he will serve as chairman "until we get this zoning hassle straightened out," referring to the moratorium on construction of multiple-unit dwellings which ends Aug. 26.

Foley, 42, is serving his fifth year on the Planning Board. He was elected to a three-year term in 1968 and to a five-year term in 1971. By August, he will have served 2½ years as chairman.

He was unanimously nominated by his fellow board members at the last meeting to serve on the new Capital Outlay Committee, which will be appointed by the Selectmen Monday.

Foley Heads Planning Board

3-18-71

LEE — Francis D. Foley Jr., was elected chairman of the Planning Board last night to succeed J. Peter Scolforo, who was chairman for two years but declined to run for re-election.

Foley announced that the board would seek funds at the 1972 annual town meeting to hire a consultant to revise the town's 1958-vintage master plan.

Pollution Control

"Ecology should definitely be one of our priorities," the new chairman said, adding that the board planned to meet soon with both air and water pollution control officials.

In other organizational matters, the Planning Board and the Selectmen appointed Randall O. Walker III to fill the vacancy on the Planning Board created by Martin H. Deely's being elected selectman. Walker was one of five aspirants to the position.

Charles J. Holmes was elected clerk of the Planning Board.

Foley said he would not run for re-election as chairman next year. He said he advocated one-year terms for chairmen on all town boards.

Sign Bylaw

The chairman said the board would also consult the state Department of Public Works on whether it had plans to widen Laurel Street (Route 20). The Selectmen have similar plans, and District 6 representatives will meet with officials of the DPW Monday at 7:30 at the Town Hall for the same reason.

In other business, the Planning Board decided to send a letter to the Chamber of Commerce asking about its counterproposal to the board's proposed sign-bylaw amendment. The item did not appear on this year's annual town warrant because the chamber had criticized it as too restrictive.

Foley noted that April 14 is the deadline for the C. of C. to submit its counterproposal. "But we definitely want to discuss it with them before that date," he said. If no counterproposal is received, the Planning Board will probably resubmit the sign-control proposal in its original form, he added.

The Berkshire Eagle, Thursday, March 18, 1971—19

Lee Selectmen Name DPW Board

LEE — The Selectmen last night appointed seven men to the newly-created Department of Public Works (DPW). The announcement of the selections came after an executive session that had been called because the Selectmen said, personalities were to be discussed.

Named to the DPW board were Joseph J. Castronova Jr., Harold E. Soules, Albert A. Belanger, Charles W. Schoendube, all two-year terms, and Paul Kneuer, Richard Hommes and Donald J. Mooney, one-year terms.

The new board will meet with the Selectmen Friday at 7:30 at the Town Hall. The group will tour the town's garage and sewage treatment plant. A chairman will also be selected at that time, the Selectmen said.

The Selectmen said they were pleased with the appointments, and looked forward to a year of action by the DPW. Of the members appointed to the DPW, Castronova is a newly-elected member of the Sewer Commission, Soules is on the Water Commission, Hommes is an ex-member of the Sewer Commission, and Mooney is on the Water Commission. Those town boards will be dissolved and their duties assumed by the DPW. Belanger is chairman of the Conservation Commission.

In other appointments:

—Leon Pecon, Walter H. Peltier, Darcy B. Wilkinson, Jr., Thomas R. Garrity and James O. Wright were named to the revived Industrial Development Commission.

—Mrs. Charles W. Stratton, Mrs. John Brandt and Robert Lucy were named to fill vacancies on the School Building Committee.

—All Reserve and Special police and policewomen were re-appointed, except for Special Policeman Andre W. Jaouen, who was replaced by Martin H. Deely. Deely has succeeded Jaouen as a selectman. In addition, Henry Loring and Myron Shaw were made Special-Police. Anyone interested in becoming a Reserve policeman should contact Chief John J. Boyne.

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24—The Berkshire Eagle, Thursday, Oct. 18, 1973

Lee plan board head asks grass-roots aid

LEE — Jon Larson, who Monday was elected chairman of the Planning Board, said yesterday that the board will make a major effort to involve the community in planning a zoning bylaw change proposal which will be voted on at the town meeting next May.

He said meetings will be held for residents and town meeting representatives to consider an overhaul of the zoning bylaw. He said the board will use its plan, which failed to win a two-thirds majority vote at an Aug. 15 special town meeting, as a "departure point for discussion."

Asks for help

A list of the streets in each zone will be distributed and representatives will be asked to help draw up zoning maps for each district, he said. "A plan is only good if the people it affects think it is," he remarked.

Larson said the Planning Board "will not bring anything to the town meeting without previously discussing it with the district representatives and the people in the district."

Larson, 32, was appointed to the board last February. With his wife, the former Judith Donovan, and their three children, he moved to Lee a year and a half ago from College Park, Md.

He received a bachelor's degree from Norwich University in Northfield, Vt. After doing graduate work in government and politics at the University of Maryland, he received a master's degree in public administration. He is currently finishing his doctoral thesis in that field, he said.

Jon Larson

Larson, who is the registrar of Berkshire Community College, teaches an evening course on futuristics and democracy. His doctoral thesis asserts that, given certain conditions, our political system can survive the technological sophistication and high pressure that currently threaten it.

Larson said he and his wife chose to live in Lee because "it's the kind of town where you can become involved."

Consolati renamed to housing board

LEE — Frank P. Consolati of Fairview Street has been appointed to a second three-year term as Gov. Sargent's representative on the Lee Housing Authority.

Notice of the reappointment by the governor was received Monday. The other four members serve five-year terms and are elected by the town.

The Authority Monday chose Mrs. Yvonne duPont of Golden Hill Road to be executive director of William P. Brown Memorial Court, the nearly completed housing-for-the elderly project on Marble Street.

Mrs. duPont will work on a part-time basis keeping the housing project accounts according to state regulations, going over tenant applications and scheduling social events, according to an Authority member, the Rev. Walter S. Ryan. The salary for the job has not yet been set, he said.

Ryan said the 13 people who applied for the executive directorship are all "well-qualified." He said that in addition to bookkeeping experience, Mrs. duPont has worked with senior citizens.

The Authority will make a "detailed inspection and report" Saturday of the work completed at the housing complex, Mr. Ryan said.

Dedication ceremonies are set for 2:30 Oct. 29, and tenants are expected to begin moving in on that day.

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fe 10/17/73

Larson, Mrs. Weiss elected as Lee plan board officers

LEE — Jon Larson was unanimously voted Planning Board chairman and Mrs. Sally Weiss was unanimously elected clerk of the board at Monday night's meeting.

The vote came a week after the board's former chairman, Raymond H. Benton, resigned from the board for what he said were health reasons.

Board member Francis F. Foley Jr., announced that letters of notification of the current vacancy will be sent to those residents who recently applied for the vacancy left by Charles Holmes. That vacancy was filled several weeks ago by Mrs. Weiss, formerly a member of the Conservation Commission.

Though any town resident may apply for the current vacancy, Foley said the board agreed that sending a letter to the recent applicants would be the polite thing to do.

The Planning Board met with Selectmen on the matter, he two boards decided to accept applications until Oct. 29. Letters should be sent to the Selectmen by that date, and appointments should be made to meet with the Planning Board.

In other business Monday, the Planning Board:

—Decided to ask the Finance Committee for $3,300 for supplies and to defray the costs of planning a zoning bylaw change proposal.

—Approved an application submitted by Richard Whitehead of Lenox to build a house at 23 George St. and one at 24 George St.

—Approved an application for a permit submitted by William H. O'Brien of Marble Street, to build a $20,000 house at 21 George St.

—Approved an application for a permit submitted by Elliott H. Decker of Fairview Street to build an addition to his house.

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2-12-74

Lee Selectmen get proposed new zoning code for town

By Ralph E. Brown

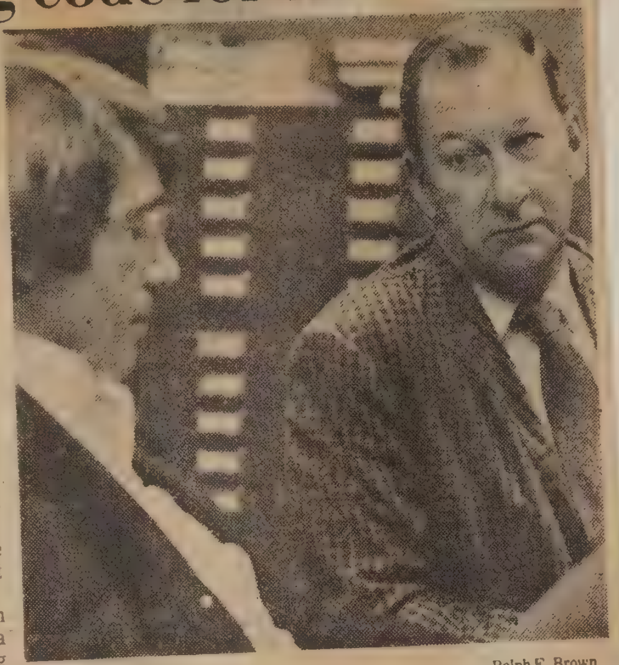
LEE — Selectmen Chairman Martin H. Deely last night called "unfortunate" a Planning Board decision to have its 26-page zoning-bylaw proposal considered as one article on the May 9 town meeting warrant.

Both Deely and Selectman Edward F. Murray said they thought the proposal would stand a better chance for passage if each of the document's 10 sections could be voted on independently.

"We've gone over the possibility of voting each section up or down," replied Planning Board Chairman Jon Larson, "but we decided that the result could be something nearly impossible to put together.

"We want the document to be as cohesive and coherent as it possibly can be," Larson said.

Planners completed work on the draft proposal a week and a half ago and began distributing copies of it on Friday. They propose to hold a series of public hearings in each of Lee's six political districts to get town reaction and suggestions for changes.


Ralph E. Brown

Planning Board Chairman Jon Larson, at left, got a skeptical eye from Selectman Edward F. Murray last night when Larson said his board wants the new zoning bylaw voted on as a single unit.

An earlier revision at a special town meeting last August fell six votes short of the two-thirds majority needed for passage.

Larson thinks the key reason for that defeat was the Planning Board's failure to give town residents enough opportunity to talk about the revision, and this time the board has planned hearings to correct that failure.

"The object of this exercise (the hearings) is to discuss the merits of the bylaw and to re-draft parts of it in keeping with the comments we get from the public," Larson told the Selectmen last night.

"I'm optimistic," Larson said. "This is a substantial improvement over what now exists — but we're still looking for changes to it. We want people to modify it now, before the town meeting," he said.

Larson said that the planned hearings may delay submission of a finished document to Selectmen until after the annual town reports have gone to press in April.

"I've no objection to that," Deely said. "If we have to hold a special town meeting after the regular one on May 9 to vote on this, that's what we'll do."

(Tomorrow's Eagle will carry a map and detailed analysis of Lee's new zoning bylaw proposal.

3/28/74 Eagle

Consolati backs new Lee zoning

LEE — Frank P. Consolati, a major opponent of the zoning bylaw revision defeated by six votes last August, said Wednesday that he will back the new revision set for a town meeting vote in May.

"I think we should back the Planning Board on this proposal," Consolati told 15 District 4 representatives and residents gathered at the South Lee Fire Station to discuss the revision with Planning Board members.

"This time they've given it study and have come in with something we can live with," Consolati said. "The four units per acre (clause) that was proposed the last time was unrealistic. Eight units per acre is something I can support."

In 3 districts

The proposed revision would permit construction of apartments at densities up to eight units per acre in two residential multiple - dwelling (RM) districts and a business multiple - dwelling (BM) one. Apartment densities in other residential districts would stay at the current four - units - per - acre rate.

Consolati, who in 1945 began the real estate and insurance firm that he still heads, told his fellow District 4 town meeting representatives that he gets housing inquiries from young people "every day."

"And we just don't have any vacancies to offer them," Consolati said. "I've seen a study that says the size of the age group from one to five years old is smaller in Lee than in the rest of Berkshire County.

"If we don't do something about it, we're going to become a town of old people," Consolati said.

Planning Board chairman Jon H. Larson told the group that the new revision had been drawn "not to injure" apartment development, "but to put a damper on indiscriminate building.

"We'd like to encourage builders like (John S.) Booke to build in areas where it's economical for the town to provide services — where sewer and water lines are now or will be shortly," Larson said.

Booke, a developer from Westfield, proposed a 120-unit apartment complex on 30 acres near the intersection of East and Martin streets last weekend, but two days later said that construction costs may cancel the project.

Booke had indicated a willingness to include the Planning Board and the Selectmen in his planning and design phase to insure a complex that would be acceptable to the town. The complex was to be built in three stages; Booke said that if the first stage met with criticism, he wouldn't build the other two.

Last night's meeting was the first in a series of sessions with district representatives. Planners began a similar series with town residents earlier this month, and say that the current one will give representatives the same chance to offer suggestions and comments about the revision that residents have had.

Another session is scheduled for District 5 representatives tonight at the Town Hall.

Hearing tomorrow on Lee zoning plan

By Ralph E. Brown

6/5/74

LEE — In what they hope will be the last step needed before town meeting consideration late this month, Planning Board members will hold a public hearing on their proposed zoning bylaw revision tomorrow at 7:30 at Central School.

The hearing will take place in Rooms 33 and 34, which are known as the old study hall in the junior high wing.

The revision was scheduled for a vote by district representatives at the annual town meeting last month, but was withdrawn at the last moment because a consultant placed an incorrect scale bar at the base of the map accompanying it.

That scale bar caused planners to incorrectly compute the dimensions of six districts and the boundaries of two others.

The board is in the process of seeking what it called "voluntary recompense" from Community Planning Associates, the Boston-based consulting firm that prepared the map, a step that planners said could be preliminary to court action seeking damages.

Nearly two years in the making, the lengthy document and revised map are set for a special town meeting vote June 27. Should representatives defeat it, as they did last August by six votes, current zoning will remain in force.

Work on the revision followed a moratorium on apartment construction invoked in August 1972, after three developers presented the town with plans for 378 units, all of which would have been built on the east side of town.

Zoning regulations then in force permitted apartment densities of up to 12 units per acre. A quickly written measure drafted by the Selectmen after defeat of the revision last August [illegible] the density to four units per acre.

The proposed revision would permit densities of up to eight units per acre in two new districts.

One, called business - multiple dwelling (BM), would extend north from the Turnpike to East Center Street. It would be bordered on the east by High and Maple streets, and on the west by Main, Elm, Railroad, Park and Housatonic streets.

The second, called residential - multiple dwelling (RM), would surround the Lee Housing Authority property on Marble Street, site of a town-sponsored elderly housing project.

Another RM district had been proposed for the portion of Laurel Street running north from Center street to Theresa Terrace, but planners dropped it in the face of stiff opposition.

Apartment construction would be permitted in other residential districts, but only at the rate of four units per acre.

Planners may hear some heated testimony tomorrow night on the last provision. A 36-unit complex proposed by Westfield developer John S. Booke for 10 acres at the southwest corner of East Street and Martin Avenue has homeowners there alarmed.

A group of 25 residents from the area Monday night presented the Selectmen with petitions bearing the signatures of 421 persons who want to see the project killed.

The Selectmen accepted the petitions, and suggested that the group attend tomorrow's hearing and make known its views.

If the hearing tomorrow is marked by controversy over apartment provisions, it will stand in sharp contrast to the quiet, sparsely attended hearing held on the revision in April before the annual town meeting that was to act on it.

Questions about apartments were almost nonexistent at that session, and no substantive objection to the revision was raised

20—The Berkshire Eagle, Monday, Sept. 10, 1973

Lee schools count enrollment of 1,170

LEE — Local public elementary schools opened with fewer pupils than were registered at the close of school in June, while St. Mary's elementary school opened with more.

School officials attributed the changes to movement of residents to and from the town during the summer. Total enrollments in local schools is 1,170.

New people in town

Sister Andrea, C.S.J., principal of St. Mary's, said today that the increase in enrollment occurred because "several families from New York, whose children had been in the parochial system there," have moved to Lee and Otis.

When school began at St. Mary's last fall, 201 children were registered, according to the principal. However, several families moved out of Lee during the school year and when classes ended the figure was 183, she said.

The enrollment now stands at 191. Sister Andrea said that none of the additional pupils came from Lee public schools.

According to Maurice J. Boulanger, superintendent, the current enrollment in public elementary schools is 979, or 19 fewer than at the close of the last school year.

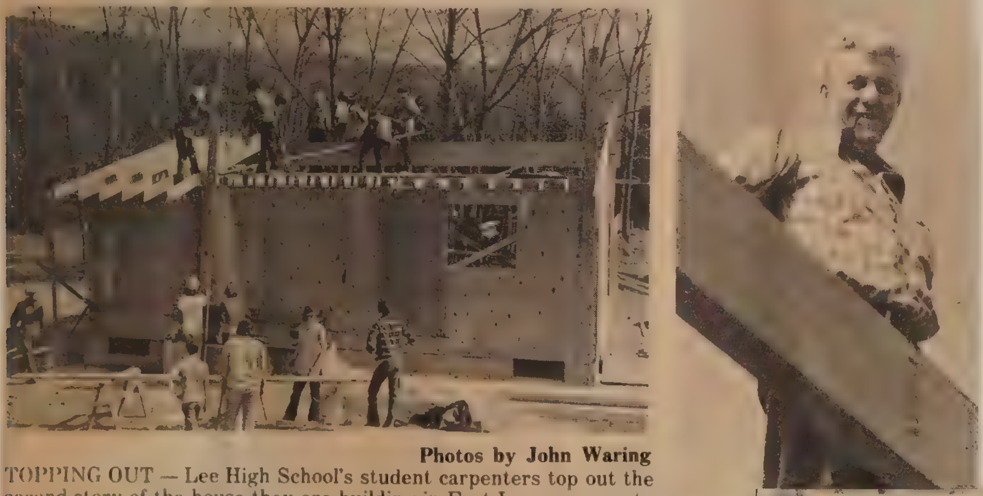
606 in high school

Boulanger said the current high school enrollment is 606 students, or the same as that in June.

He said several families, each with many children in the public school system, moved from Lee.

He said he expects another 10 children to enroll in elementary grades by Oct. 1. As of that date, the figures are considered official by the state, he said.

BUILDING THEIR FIRST HOUSE



Photos by John Waring

TOPPING OUT — Lee High School's student carpenters top out the second story of the house they are building in East Lee on property owned by Louis DiGrigoli, the sponsor of the course. Instructor Robert Mazur (side) is an experienced carpenter form Monterey and says his 24 students are learning and working much faster than he had expected.

THE BERKSHIRE HERALD — OCTOBER 31, 1973

John Waring

LEE HIGH CARPENTERS — A house is rapidly rising along Route 20 in East Lee, the product of Lee High School's first housebuilding course. In the photo above, six of the 24 students put up the studs and beams for the lower level. (More photos on Page 6)

Open house tomorrow at home students built

LEE — The results of Lee High School's first house-building project will be on display tomorrow from 10 to 4 when Louis J DiGrigoli, owner of the new three-bedroom, multi-level house on Cape Street, opens it to the public

Scheduled for completion this month, some three months ahead of schedule, the $30,000 home was built by 26 Lee High students enrolled in the project.

Occupational education instructor Robert Mazur directed the project, which was originated by industrial arts instructor Eugene Trombly and School Supt Maurice J. Boulanger

Building code requirements

Only plumbing, wiring, heating, masonry and foundation work was done by professional contractors, as required by building code requirements.

Construction began in September when the foundation was poured The walls and roof were completed by December, allowing the students to work inside during winter weather.

General exterior finishing, including the siding, begun when spring weather arrived, was completed this month Only carpeting and window trim remain to be done

The seven-room house has a recreation room on the first level above the cellar and living, kitchen and dining rooms on the next level Three bedrooms sit on the top floor.

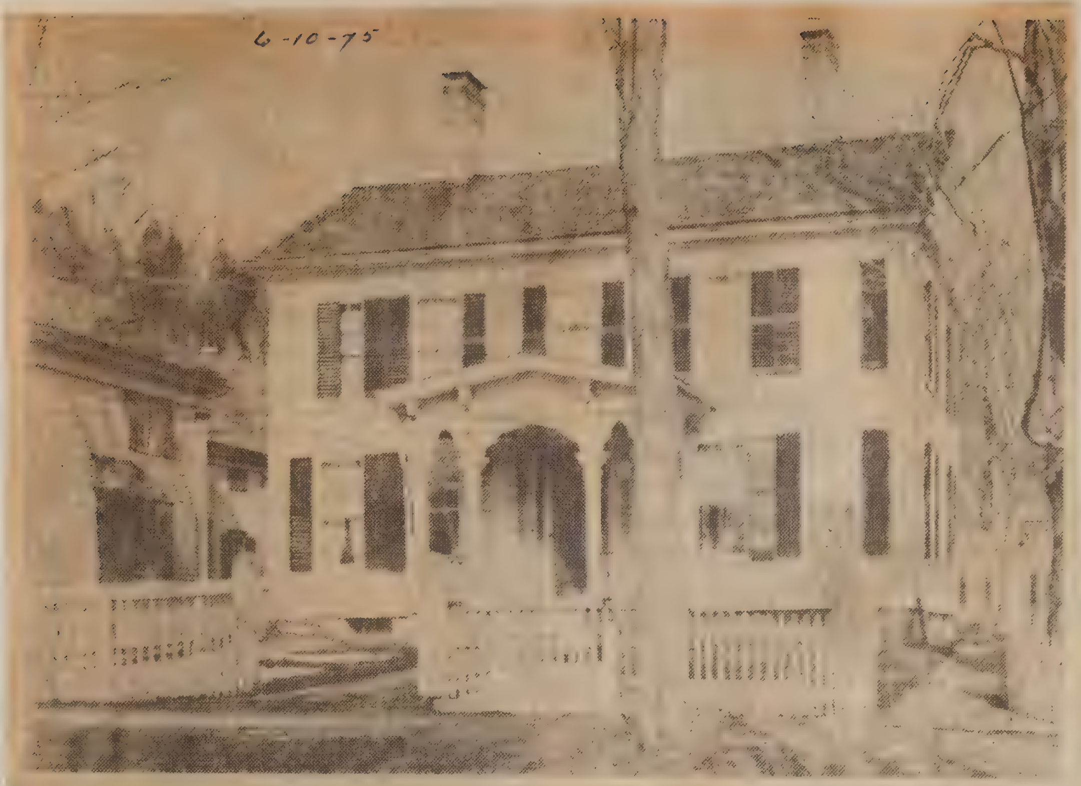
Landscaping will be done when the students resume classes this fall, and a garage may be added to the house then

The students work in shifts of 13, spending one week working at the house and the next week in classes.

Party last night

DiGrigoli hosted a party last night at the Here-U-R restaurant for the students and others involved in the project, and presented tools to students who will be in the program next year. Small scholarships were given to graduating seniors.

The School Committee, which last month approved the program for another year, is currently accepting declarations of intent from prospective sponsors who would like a house built by Lee students next year.


6-10-75

SCHOOL SITE on High Street in Lee that is now occupied by the Central School, was occupied until around 1917 by the building at the left in this photo loaned by Mrs. Tracy B. Ambler, who lives in the house that dominates the photo. House at left was converted to a one-room schoolhouse in which the late Leda Stratton was teacher until building was razed to make way for present school. It was apparently the cesspool for the former building that was the "well" referred to in the 1917 report of the School Building Committee. The report stated $140 worth of concrete was poured into well to serve as foundation for one of the "main iron pillars" of the present school, which is now collapsing.

Lee's Central School site has a history of problems

by Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — The 1917 and 1928 annual reports of the town's School Building Committee about the construction of the southern wing of the Central School stand as testament to the adage that the key to the future is contained in the past.

The original construction of the wing, which began in September 1916, and was completed 12 months later, was plagued by cost overruns, an insufficiently constructed frame, the need to plaster two times all the building's ceilings, the discovery the wing was being built on a cesspool, the not-so-welcome advice of the State Board of Education and the award of the construction contract to a company that failed halfway through the project.

The 1928 report, written just 11 years after the completion of the wing, tells of spending nearly $1,000 to repair the southern wall of the building. At that time it was serving as Lee High School.

"We feel sure that this wall has been fixed permanently," says the report, written 47 years before a structural engineer last month found the corners settling.

The 1928 report goes on to say that the building Committee, after a three-year study, "is convinced that additional space is needed immediately."

If that sounds similar to the recent rhetoric concerning the southern wing, which the engineer said last month was structurally unsound and should be demolished, consider the following passage from the 1917 report

"It would be sad commentary on the future of Lee were we to feel satisfied with present conditions. Rather we should hope for the day when growth and prosperity knocked again at our treasury for more school expansion."

Unfortunately, things like costs don't get repeated in the historical cycle. "The Marble Building" became the latest jewel in the 1917 Lee educational system for a mere $35,000. Lee voters will be asked later this year to appropriate $3.28 million for a school building program.

If we can believe Dr. J. J. Hassett and his 1917 report as chairman of the High School Building Committee, there were corners cut to keep costs within the town's allocation.

If we can believe Stuart H. Snyder, the Syracuse, N.Y. structural engineer, hired by the 1975 School Committee "the building is not well-built."

Furthermore, adds Snyder, "it is reasonable to assume that if the building was built well originally, it would be okay today."

According to Dr. Hassett's report, the history of the building of the southern wing at a cost of $35,000, included:

—Having the architect, a William T. Towner of New York City, submit his plans a first time, only to have him do them again. Dr. Hassett said that because of "recent marked advances in material and labor, it was found necessary to modify the above plans and specifications to conform to the appropriation."

—The perplexing discovery that the "point designed for one of the main iron pillars" was precisely the same as an old cesspool. True to the more-proper customs of that bygone day, the good doctor called the hole in the ground "a well," and duly noted that when excavated it yielded "many belongings of an older generation," including tin ware, crockery and old hats "of styles long past."

—The addition of two extra steel girders, not in the original plans, "as a matter of extra precaution" after a summer resident of the town, a consulting engineer, consulted Towner's plans. He concluded the extra support was necessary after "figuring the strength of all the materials which went into the building."

—The receipt of a note, five months before the opening of the building, that the construction company (J. F. Growe Construction Co. of Albany) had failed. Not only was completion of the building delayed but, said Dr. Hassett, "much of the work done previously by the contractor had to be done over," including the replastering of the ceilings. In addition, "the Building Committee failed to accept the roof" that was originally constructed. It was redone, and survived until condemned last year by the state building inspector.

—Having to deal with a state Board of Education that seems to have been loaded with advice on how the building should be designed. "All of the suggestions were considered in the work," said Dr. Hassett in his most specific comment on the Lee committee's appreciation for the board's advice on everything from classroom size to types of courses to build the rooms for.

The southern wing today stands condemned and unusable. There is a public hearing tonight to discuss alternatives for what to do with it.

What will they be saying 58 years from now?

The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, June 18, 1974— 19

Architect's reports on Lee schools printed

Central School (Hyde, Center, South Wings)

Photos by Ralph E. Brown

Lee's Central School with Hyde School at left, and junior high wing at the right.

Series of constructions starting with the north wing which is the Hyde School built in 1894. The south wing was built in 1917 and the center wing was built in 1936 to which there have been several alterations and additions.

Hyde School is a sound structure and has been kept in good condition generally. The roof leaks but this can be corrected by replacing all of the copper flashings and valleys. It should be noted that this hipped roof poses a dangerous condition when ice forms around the eaves.

The chalkboards and tackboards generally are mounted too high for elementary school use. All classrooms are well lighted and equipped with electrical outlets, sinks, etc. However, it has been necessary to use spaces under the stair landings for offices and the second floor hallway for a library, which is against state regulations. The basement has a large room that is being used for school lunches but has no kitchen. This building is not connected to the rest of the building by corridors except a devious narrow passage in the basement. This limits its function in respect to the rest of the school.

Center wing is in relatively good condition with the exception of the gymnasium floor which appears to have lost its sub-floor by rotting. The athletic and the music programs have to function in the same space, limiting their effectiveness and scheduling. The coach's office is a 5 by 8-foot cubbyhole under the stair landing. The music practice room consists of a closet and the music office is a small room adjacent to it.

The school has a serious sound problem. When classes change there is nothing to absorb the noise of these changes, or isolate them. The connection between this center wing, the Hyde wing, and the south wing are very poor. All students have to pass through the gymnasium to get to the relocateable classrooms. In this wing some lighting is below good standards but is passable.

South wing is in the worst condition of any in the school system. It apparently was under-designed structurally in the beginning and both the east and west walls have spread apart in various amounts up to 2½ inches. This prompted the survey with plumb bob to determine where and how much wall displacement had occurred. Following this investigation holes were cut in the ceilings on the second floor level and one in the center of the building on the west side at the first flooor ceiling. These holes afforded a direct visual inspection of the actual conditions.

They revealed that moisture has penetrated through the walls and is rotting the ends of the rafters. These rafters do not have adequate bearing due to the tilting out of the walls. In one case there is only one-quarter inch of bearing. In other cases there were several rafters ranging from ¾" to 1½" of bearing. Computations have been made on this roof system and find that they will not sustain a moderately heavy snow fall.

The condition is so bad that the state building inspector was called in to make a personal examination with the result that he has condemned further use of this south wing until steps are taken to bolster up the present second-floor roof to prevent a chain reaction throughout the building if it should fail.

HYDE WING		
New copper valleys 128x3—384 sq. ft.@	$3.50	$ 1,344
Windows 88x$20 repairs		1760
Exterior painting		500
Miscellaneous repairs		1,000
New hatchway 25x8—200 sq. ft. @ $7		1,400
Cut 3 new openings thru 24" stone walls		3,000
Remove 25 old Pl. fixtures	20.00	500
Relocate walk-in cooler		800
Install new serving kitchen		7,000
Paint all interior walls 29,600 sq. ft. @	.20	5,920
New Ac. tile ceilings 8,400 sq. ft.	.90	7,560
Paint other ceilings 11,000 sq. ft. @	.25	2,750
15 new Plumbing fixtures		4,500
		38,644
	Fee, profit and overhead	16,616
Total		$55,260

If a new flat roof is installed to replace old sloping roof and top of tower removed

7,400 sq. ft. @	$2.50	$18,500
removals		2,200
Fees, profit and overhead		8,694
		$29,394

Above does not include any new construction which would consist of new connections to center wing etc.

CENTER WING		
New carpeting all classrooms 630 sq. yds.	$15	$ 9,450
Paint all walls 54,sq. ft. @	.20	12,800
Paint all ceilings 23,700 sq. ft. @	.25	5,925
Miscellaneous repairs		3,000
GYMNASIUM		
Paint ceiling 4,176 sq. ft. @	.35	1,462
New stage lighting, curtains, etc.		7,000
Paint all walls 4,800 sq. ft. @		.20
		[illegible]
		$ 9,398
	Fees, Profit and Overhead	3,947
		$13,345
If new lighting is installed—		
18 new 250W mercury vapor lights @	285 ea.	5,130
If new gym floor is installed—		
Remove 4,176 sq. ft. @	.30	1,253
New flooring 4,176 sq. ft. @	3.50	14,176
	Fees, profit and overhead	6,362
		$21,791

Recommendations:

HYDE WING is in good condition except for repairs to the roof. Educationally it is isolated from the rest of the school. Therefore it is our recommendation that access between the Hyde wing and the center wing be connected at the first and second floor levels. Since the best place to do this is on the east side of the Hyde wing the space in the little courtyard between the two wings should be new construction to provide for this.

Building needs of Lee schools seen costing $3 million or more

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — The message underlying Pittsfield architect John H. Fisher's report on the condition of elementary and junior high school buildings here is a simple one: Abandon the outlying schools and build a new one.

But the message is an expensive one. Fisher last week refused to disclose the cost figures he has computed for carrying out his recommendations, but an interpolation of figures that have been made public places the total cost of the project above $3 million.

The message is also one that residents here have heard before. A School Building Commission report to the town in 1958 suggested closing the outlying schools and building a new elementary school as one alternative to space problems then. Later proposals for a middle school echoed the theme.

No one yet is predicting what the town's final, concerted response to that message will be, although indications should arise tomorrow night at a public hearing scheduled to present the report to townspeople.

* * * *

Sponsored by the School Committee and the School Building Commission, the hearing will start at 7:30 at Central School auditorium.

The two groups ordered Fisher's $4,000 study last fall to obtain accurate, specific figures on the cost of bringing the school buildings up to current safety standards.

The bulk of Fisher's report is contained in 122 individual analyses of classrooms, cafeterias, corridors, stairwells and restrooms. The condition of blackboards, ceilings, lighting, walls and windows has been labeled "good," "satisfactory" or "unsatisfactory."

The analyses call attention to the wide range of conditions throughout the classrooms. For instance, the report notes that illumination in one classroom was measured at 100 footcandles ("good") and in another classroom at 20 footcandles ("unsatisfactory").

Comments adjoining the analyses note substantial deficiencies. One such note observed that winter winds entering a classroom in one of the outlying schools hampered learning because children had gathered in a corner to keep warm.

Portions of the report appear elsewhere on this page. The 122 pages of individual analyses, excluded here, are available for public review in school and town offices and in the public library.

The report's second section summarizes the deficiencies noted, and a third offers general recommendations for the buildings. A fourth section itemizes the work needed, and the cost, to bring the existing buildings up to current safety standards.

* * * *

Renovations called for in the report, however, would not necessarily bring the buildings up to current educational standards. The size of the classrooms in the junior high wing of Central School, for example, is below existing state guidelines, and the design of the building precludes expanding them, Fisher says.

A fifth section, written after the condemnation of the junior high, sketches alternative proposals for the use of existing and proposed buildings. Assuming a new school is to be built, for example, should it be used to house students in Grades K-4 or 5-8?

Arguing that the $70,000 needed to bring the outlying schools up to stanuards in money poorly spent, Fisher's recommendation charts three steps he thinks the town should take.

First, he says that school officials should discontinue classes in the East and South Lee and Bradley Street schools and in the South Lee Fire Station.

Second, he suggests that the junior high wing be demolished, and that the remaining Hyde and center wings of Central School be converted to house students in kindergarten through Grade 4.

Third, he recommends building a new school on town-owned land on Maple Street to serve students in Grades 5 through 8.

* * * *

Fisher refuses to make public now the cost of such a project, saying that costs cannot be accurately computed until school officials design educational specifications for the new classroom space at both Central School and the proposed Maple Street building.

His report does say, however, that renovations at the Hyde and center wings of Central School needed just to bring that building up to safety standards would cost $120,000.

And he adds that that figure doesn't include the expense of breaking open new corridors between the two wings, a move he says is necessary to provide acceptable passage between them.

Fisher has also suggested that a cafeteria be erected on the site of the junior high wing, a move that would increase again the cost of Central School renovations.

Additionally, although questionable because the figure is nearly five years old, the $2.85 million price tag for the middle school proposed in 1970 does give an indication of what a new Maple Street school could cost.

That figure was computed with the assumption that a new building would house 800 students. Although no public estimates have yet been made, school and town officials privately say that a new building now would only need to house 600 students.

* * * *

But they suspect that any savings over the 1970 figure resulting from the smaller student population would be offset by the rise in building and equipment costs during the past five years.

Consequently, the cost of the combined building and renovation program being proposed could exceed $3 million.

But if the program ultimately designed by school officials meets with the approval of the State Building Assistance Bureau (SBAB), an arm of the Massachusetts Department of Education, the town could be reimbursed by the state for 65 per cent of the program's cost.

That figure, a substantial increase from the 42.5 per cent reimbursement awarded by the state in 1962 to help pay for the high school and from the 40 per cent reimbursement proposed in 1970 for the middle school, includes payment on interest as well as principal, a departure from past practices.

Such reimbursement, which school officials say differs from other state reimbursement programs in that the funds are guaranteed to be paid, could reduce the actual cost to the town to approximately $1 million.

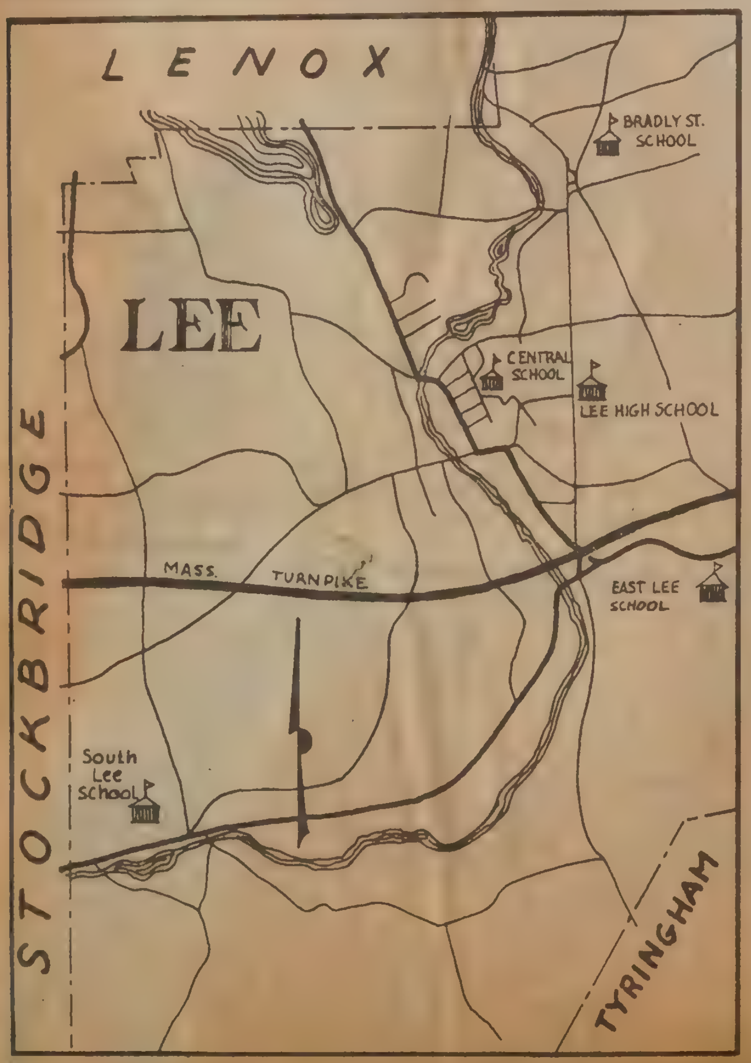
* * * *

Response to the Fisher report, and its implications for Lee students and taxpayers alike, will probably dominate public thinking here for some time. Already discussion has started over whether the junior high wing should be torn down or repaired.

Although no one has yet embraced the report, School Committee chairman William F. Tyer Jr. two weeks ago outlined to an SBAB representative a proposed building project that closely resembles Fisher's recommendation.

The Selectmen, however, although they haven't yet officially received the report, have encouraged plans to repair the junior high wing. And town meeting representatives, who ultimately will make the decision, haven't yet had a chance to speak officially.

But, as it has in years past, the debate about what elementary and junior high principal Raymond B. Kavey six years ago termed Lee's "patchwork - quilt educational system" has begun.



William Sosa

Bradley Street School

One-room school (built in 1893). It has a school population requiring a lot of busing of school children to make up a class. It is in a run-down condition, and recent repair work indicated that there were rotting sills and studding. It has served more than 80 years already and does not justify spending $13,000 to bring it up to modern standards because it would still be an old school with limited life span.

Minimum work requirements		
Floor—refinish asb. tile 714 sq. ft. @	$ .20	$143
Minor repairs—lump sum		50
Paint walls 1,751 sq. ft. @	.20	350
Paint ceiling 714 sq. ft. @	.25	179
Paint exterior 1,820 sq. ft. @	.25	455
Miscellaneous & insulation		600
		1,777
	Fees, profit & overhead	973
		2,750

Notes: This building was built in 1893. The contractor, when he repaired the rear entrance in 1972, found the building sill completely rotted out and even the studding dosey. It is our opinion that the building could remain for several years serviceable with constant repairs. The truth is that it has outlived its life. Three posts in basement have been replaced. The others will have to be replaced in a few years.

TO BRING UP TO PROPER STANDARDS:		
Remove old wax 710 sq. ft. @	$ .15	$ 106
New V.A. 710 sq. ft. @	.45	320
New windows 11 @	250.00	2,750
A.T. ceilings 710 sq. ft. @	.45	320
2 new doors @	150.00	300
Painting 1,751 sq. ft. @	.20	350
Exterior work repairs		250
Painting 1,820 sq. ft. @	.25	455
Room ventilator		2,000
Insulation 2300 sq. ft. @	.25	575
New lighting & elec.		800
Outside work		500
Chalkboards		325
Miscellaneous		250
Basement		200
		$ 9,251
	Fees, profit & overhead	3,900
		$13,100

Recommendation is to discontinue using this school at the earliest practical moment, since the building has in truth outlived its usefulness, not only physically but educationally.

Bradley School

South Lee Fire Station classroom

Of all the out-lying school facilities this one is the best, with th exception of the level of artificial illumination which can be easil brought up to proper standards.

Although there is little to fault this facility, it is not recommende that its use be continued if and when a new K through 5 schoo building is constructed as it would penalize the children attending i since a new building would have many additional educationa advantages. If it is to be retained new lighting is a must.

Old St. Mary's building

There are three small size classrooms in a renovated residentia type building (the former St. Mary's school on Academy Street now being rented by the School Board to house kindergarte classes. The area of each of these rooms is approximately 57 square feet. State recommendations call for 1,200 square feet Quarters are unsuitable and in any upgrading of the school sys tem should not be used, being replaced by new and adequate fa cilities.

CENTER WING is in good shape but should be modified so that children would not have to pass through the present gymnasium to get to the relocateable classrooms.

The floor of the gymnasium should be replaced and carpeting installed in the classrooms to reduce the noise level in this wing.

SOUTH WING of the Central School has a roof that is not safe in its present condition and the state building inspector has examined it and condemned the building for use, thus creating a deficit of classroom space. This poses a complicated problem requiring an interim solution of certain classes being held in double sessions until new facilities and remodeled facilities can be brought into use.

East Lee School

East Lee School

Two-room school (built in 1894). It is situated on a side hill which makes the playground unsuitable and largely unusable. It is lower than the road and there are drainage problems within and around the building. It needs repair on the chimney, roofs, and exterior. The lighting level . . . below proper standards and the chalkboards and tackboards are too high for the grade children involved. The interior is in rather shabby condition. Repairs to bring it up to acceptance would cost more than $17,000 still with no adequate playground provided.

Chimney repair (Relay app. 4 ft.—new cap)		$ 750
Refinish floor asb. tile 2,194 sq. ft. @	.20	439
Minor repairs		100
Paint walls 5,520 sq. ft. @	.20	1,104
Paint ceilings 2,194 sq. ft. @	.25	549
Cer. tile floor 70 sq. ft. @	4.00	280
New lighting fixtures 14 fixtures @ 75.00		1,050
Partial new roof 500 sq. ft. @	3.00	1,500
Paint exterior 4,200 sq. ft.	.25	1,050
New windows 14 @	250.00	3,500
Insulate attic 2,194 sq. ft. @	.25	549
Miscellaneous repairs		500
New doors 8 @ $75.00		600
		11,971
	Fees, profit & overhead	5,056
Total	Total	$17,027

Notes: Condition similar to South Lee in that it has sagged and slowly deteriorated. Above repairs only refurbish it and extends its useful life.

Recommendation: This building does not justify spending $17,000 to bring it up to proper standards since it is located on a totally inadequate and unsuitable piece of property.

Notes: Condition fair. Has sagged and slowly deteriorated. Above repairs only refurbish it and extend its useful life. Site is worse feature on building, being built on the side of a hill.

Recommendation: This school is on an unsuitable piece of property and it is questionable whether $40,000 ought to be spent on the building to upgrade it Since there is no way that the sum total of all presently occupied spaces in the school system can be made to provide the actual educational needs of the system, new facilities (probably in a K-5 unit) must be built to compensate for classroom deficiencies. This, then, would be the time to shift these three classrooms over to the new facility.

South Lee School

South Lee School

Three-room school building (built in 1891). It is half way up a side hill with a steep and bad approach and limited playground in the rear. The side hill cannot be considered an adequate playground. There are drainage problems to the west and south of the school building. Water runs through the basement wall and is diverted by a curb to cross the cellar floor.

The present floor sags very badly and all of the windows are so loose that the building is difficult to heat when the wind blows. Lighting levels are low and general condition of the building poor. It would take about $40,000 to bring it up to any kind of standards.

Basement		
4 new 8x8 posts @	$50.00	$200
Floor system		
Jack up floors as much as 2 in. to reasonably level up 3,710	1.50	5,565
New floor underlayment 3,714 sq. ft. @	.25	929
New ⅛ Asb. Tile flooring 3,420 sq. ft. @	.60	2.052
New cer. tile in toilets 294 sq. ft.	3.00	882
New cer. tile wainscots in toilets 4 ft., 0 in. high 944 sq. ft.@	3.00	2,832
New wood windows 21 @	250.00	5,250
New doors 7 @	175.00	1,225
Repair front porch 210 sq. ft. new flooring	1.50	315
Paint exterior 3,930 sq. ft. @	.25	983
Paint interior 13,300 sq. ft. @	.20	2,660
New lighting 56 new fixtures @ $75.00		4,200
Miscellaneous repairs		1,000
		28,093
	Fees, profit & overhead	11,867
Total		$39,960

Eagle 5/19/75

Lee advised to tear down school wing

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — The southern wing of the Central School here should be demolished immediately "to lessen the danger to any property or persons in the immediate vicinity," a structural engineer has informed the School Committee in a written report.

The engineer, Stuart H. Snyder of the Syracuse, N.Y., firm of Snyder, Burns & Associates, also strongly advised against attempts to renovate the 58-year-old building.

"Repair and/or partial replacement of this building would be so extensive as to make such an undertaking both impractical and uneconomical, especially since we predict continued settlement of this tructure, which would only damage any further repairs made thereto," Snyder's report said.

William F. Tyer, chairman of the School Committee, said Snyder's report meant the permanent closing of the southern wing. "We will not allow children to attend classes in a building in that condition," Tyer said.

Tyer said he would recommend at the committee's meeting tonight at 7:30 at Lee High School that plywood be put over the building's entrances.

Snyder was hired three weeks ago by the School Committee to test the structural soundness of the wing, which housed the town's 230 7th and 8th graders, and a class of 24 5th graders.

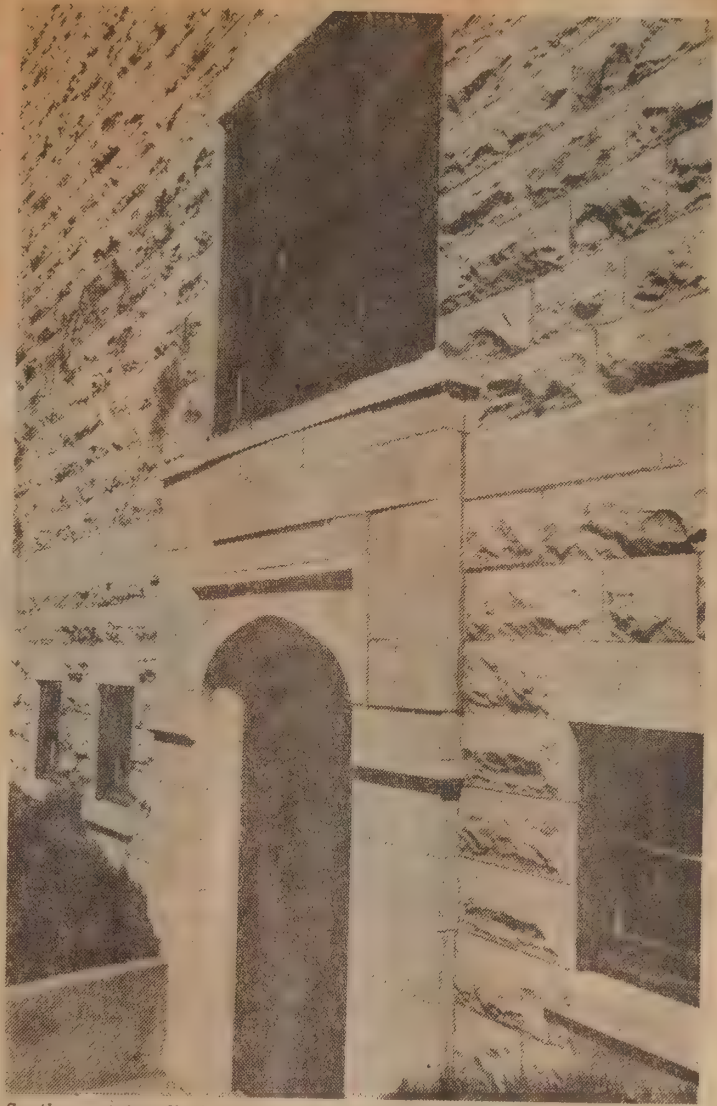
The structure had served as Lee High School until the present high school building was constructed on the east side of town in the early 1960s.

The wing was closed two weeks ago when Snyder's preliminary investigation revealed that the building's southern stairwell was in imminent danger of collapse. The closing of the stairwell left the wing with one fire exit, a violation of state law.

The closing of the wing forced the town's elementary and junior high school pupils to begin double sessions.

Tyer said Snyder's report "guarantees double sessions next year for kindergarten through 8th grade, unless other classroom space can be found.

The first indication of the wing's structural instability came April 15 when Pittsfield architect John H. Fisher told the committee he thought the building's walls were moving.



Southern stairwell of Lee Central School's southern wing is behind this entrance. School wing was closed two weeks ago when stairwell was found to be dangerous.

Snyder said in his report that the southern wing "does not meet either long-established or present-day standards insofar as structural safety is concerned." Speaking today from Syracuse, he said, "We do not believe there was any professional design put into that building back in 1917, (when it was built). If it had been analyzed by a structural engineer in the past 20 or 30 years, it would have been called unsafe.

"To put it simply, the building has seen its day and we recommend it be demolished and not used," Snyder said.

Snyder's report said the building was unsafe because of its weak structural members and the fact that it is settling.

"Many structural members of the entire south wing building are undersized and are unsafe," the report said. "Continued usage of this building in its present condition would only jeopardize the lives of the occupants."

The report also said the top of the building walls are leaning outward with the south leaning 2¾-inches outward at its east end and 2 inches outward at its west end.

Snyder said the one bright note in his report is that he found no evidence of rot in the building's wood supports.

Cracked walls and decayed ceilings.

Cracked walls and exterior bracing of the building.

Broken bricks and cracked walls.

Lee's faulty school wing turned over to Selectmen

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — The School Committee here voted last night to turn responsibility for the fate of the Central School's southern wing over to the town's Selectmen.

The committee said in a 5 to 0 vote that any decision on whether to demolish or renovate the structure would have to come from the School Building Commission, which the committee said was under the control of the Selectmen. Committee member James M. Graham abstained in the vote.

No comment

The Selectmen had no comment last night on the committee's action, pending official notification of the vote.

However, they did raise the possibility that because the building was school property, the decision on what to do with it might still rest with the School Committee.

Explaining the committee's decision to turn responsibility for the building over to the Selectmen, outgoing chairman William F. Tyer said, "It is the School Committee's obligation to keep the town aware of the educational quality of the schools. We are not responsible for building new buildings or demolishing old ones."

The School Committee's action came after the board had received a report from a structural engineer recommending that the southern wing be demolished.

The engineer, Stuart H. Snyder of the Syracuse, N.Y., firm of Snyder, Burns & Associates, also strongly advised against attempts to renovate the structure. "The building has been its day," Snyder said.

Allied story on Page 21

The School Committee also voted last night to place plywood over the entrances to the wing and to shut off all utilities to the building within the next two weeks.

The two-week closing period was vote to provide time for removal of books and other equipment now in the wing. The work will be done by the school's custodians.

A public hearing on Snyder's report will be held soon, the committee indicated. Tyer said copies of the report have been delivered to the Selectmen and the building inspector, and that copies are available to Central School teachers.

A copy of the report is also available for public inspection at the public library on Main Street.

5/20/75 Eagle

Cooperative use of high schools is under study by Lee, Lenox

LEE — School officials here and in Lenox are discussing an exchange program through which high school students at one town high school would be able to take certain courses at the other.

The program, still in the tentative planning stage, also would provide for sharing of facilities at Lee High School and Lenox Memorial High School.

Officials of the two school systems disagreed over the date when the program might begin.

Said Robert Lucy, principal of Lee High, "The program is still very nebulous at this time, but I think there's a 50-50 chance we can begin this September."

Said Roland T. Miller, superintendent of the Lenox system: "We have identified potential courses for an exchange program, but we haven't been able to carry it beyond that. I don't see anything happening for the next academic year — but possibly in September, 1976."

The discussions have begun between Lee Supt. Maurice J. Boulanger and Lenox Memorial High School principal Paul E. Perachi, as well as Miller and Lucy.

Before any program can go into affect, it must be approved by the School Committees in each town. Both Boulanger and Miller indicated their committees were in favor of such a plan, but aware of the transportation and scheduling problems.

* * * *

The voters of the two towns have rejected proposals that Lee and Lenox, along with other neighboring towns, form a regional school district. These proposals date back to the early 1950s.

The state Department of Education has been pressuring towns with small school systems to regionalize and thereby create schools with greater resources and more varied curricula.

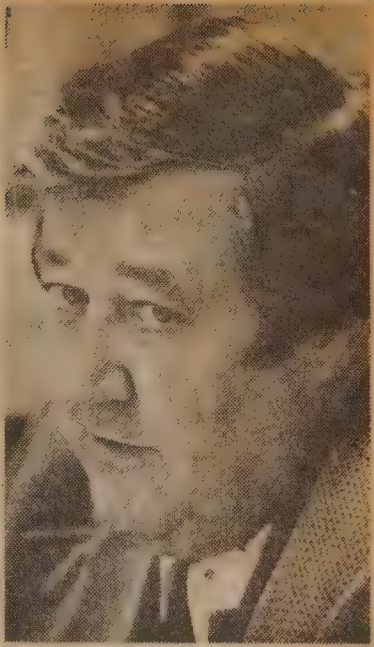
The Lee town meeting earlier this month approved an article creating a committee to consider the possibility of forming a regional school district. Lenox has no such committee.

The state has recommended that Lee, Lenox, Otis and Tyringham form a regional school district.

The most recent defeat of regionalization plans came in 1972 and 1969, when voters in both towns overwhelmingly turned back a proposed district with Otis and Tyringham.

Otis and Tyringham students now attend Lee High School.

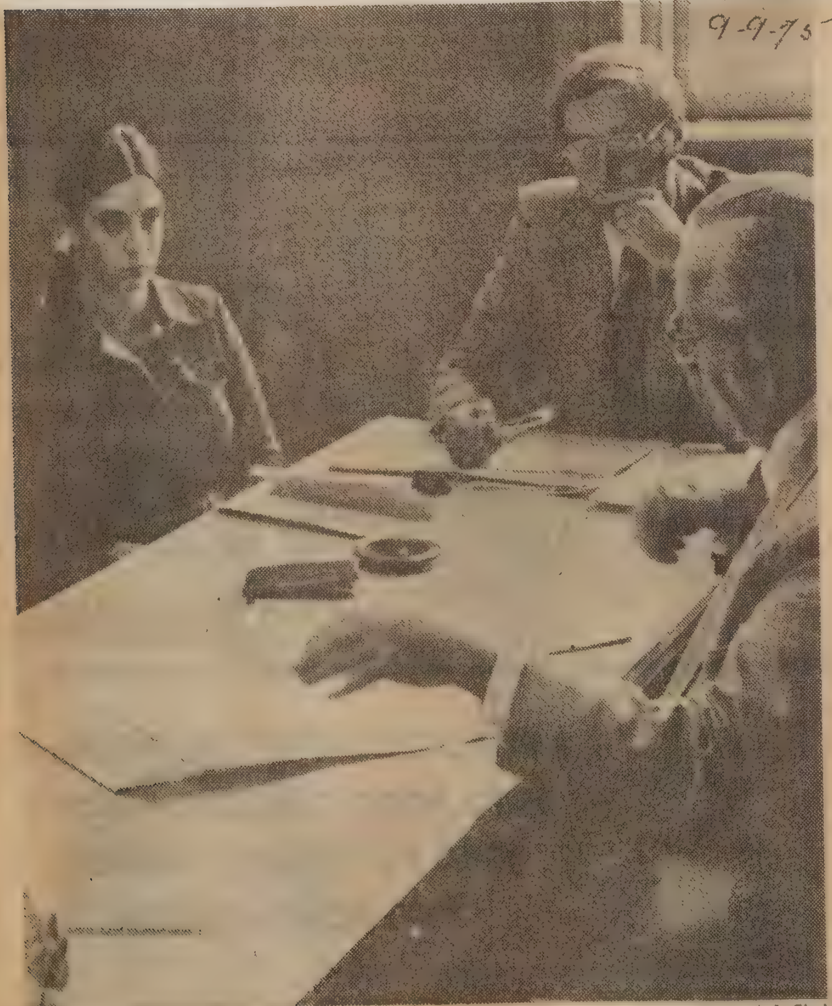
Although officials haven't discussed the program since last February, the tentative plan would have Lee students taking German, Spanish and music-theatre courses at Lenox. Lenox students would take housebuilding, advanced biology, advanced physics and advance Latin in Lee.



Principal Robert Lucy
"It's still very nebulous."

Eagle 5/28/75

9-9-75



Benjamin L. Ginsberg

ARBITRATOR Harry Purcell (right) listened yesterday in Lee as Susan Murray, a biology teacher at Lee High School since 1972, explained why she felt she was unfairly treated when her contract was not renewed for the present school year. Seated between Mrs. Murray and Purcell is Massachusetts Teacher Association lawyer Theodore Brown of Springfield, who represented Mrs. Murray. This year the Lee School Committee dropped two teaching positions, including Mrs. Murray's, in an attempt to cut costs.

11-15-75

Teacher is returned to Lee classroom after arbitration

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — The School Committee voted Thursday night to accept an arbitrator's decision and will reinstate Susan Murray as a high school biology teacher on Monday.

Mrs. Murray had been denied reappointment and tenure by the committee and the school administration last spring on grounds of incompetence.

Mrs. Murray

Mrs. Murray and the Lee Education Association (LEA) filed an appeal on the grounds that she was evaluated unfairly. The American Arbitration Association found in Mrs. Murray's favor earlier this month. The full text of the decision has not been made public.

Mrs. Murray will replace Deborah Thurston, who has been substituting since the opening of school in September.

An appeal of the arbitrator's decision by the School Committee would have gone to the state's Superior Court.

Henry G. Greiner, the committee's chairman, said last night his group decided not to appeal because "it would have taken years to decide in the courts." Greiner had no other comment on the decision.

However he did say that the decision against the committee might mean a change in evaluation procedures. "We'll first have to review the decision and see what was lacking in the previous arrangement," Greiner said.

Albert A. Vinatier, president of the LEA, issued no response to the committee's decision, but did comment:

"The outcome of the case will probably make it tougher on the committee and the administration on future evaluations They may have to change th procedures."

Vinatier pointed out that three teachers in the Lee scho system were now left untenured.

7-8-75

Lee school-buildings panel to ready 4 middle school plans

LEE — The School Building Commission (SBC) has voted to get specifications on four plans for a new middle school building here.

The SBC originally planned to draw up only one proposal—for a new middle school building on Maple Street.

However considerable pressure was placed on the SBC by townspeople to explore more than one option, and the Selectmen officially asked the commission on June 26 to look at three other proposals.

The three proposals from the Selectmen that the SBC said it would consider are:

—Additional clusters on the present Lee High School building.

— A new wing on the site of the Central School's present southern wing, which has been declared structurally unsafe.

— Additional portable classrooms at the Central School.

The SBC said it would retain professional consultants to aid in its evaluation of all four plans.

SBC Chairman Alfred F. Turner has indicated the earliest the plans will be ready is October.

The question townspeople will answer when they decide which, if any, of the four plans to adopt is whether they want a long-range or short-range solution to the school building problem.

Retains architect

The long-range solution, according to Turner, would be to build the Maple Street middle school. That option would be more expensive than the other three, short-range options.

The SBC has also voted to retain Pittsfield architect John H. Fisher to draw up specifications for the demolition of the southern wing of Central School. Fisher, who has been the SBC and School Committee architect for the past year-and-a-half, was retained by unanimous vote.

Turner told the Selectmen last night he was trying to set up a meeting next week with Stephen Hart of the state's school regionalization and collaboration bureau for the purpose of determining how much state funding the town can expect.

Dog warning issued in Lee

LEE — Final warnings were sent out today to more than 170 dog owners who have not yet gotten licenses for their pets, according to Police Chief John J. Boyne.

Boyne said the dog owners have until July 14 to obtain the licenses from Town Clerk John J. Nagle. Court summonses will be sent out on July 15, Boyne said.

The town clerk should also be notified immediately if previously registered dogs are no longer in the possession of the owner.

10-8-75

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

REQUESTING School Committee funds to keep the high school open this Sunday during the Lee Junior Football League games is Ronald J. Halpin of Lenox, a member of the league's board of directors. The league asked to use the scoreboard and toilets. Listening are School Committee Chairman Henry G. Greiner (right), and Joseph C. Savery (center). At rear are football league coaches.

7/23/75 Eagle

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

BERKSHIRE ANIMAL Protective Society members Eleanor A. Sonsini (left), Mary Murphy (center) and Susan Kelly complained at the Lee Selectmen's meeting Monday night of unsanitary conditions at the Lee dog pound. Seated in rear are two observers of the meeting, Eugene DelVecchio and Edward M. Briggs.

3 criticize Lee dog pound

LEE — Three members of the Berkshire Animal Protective Society lodged an angry complaint with the Selectmen Monday night over the conditions of the town's dog pound.

The three — Eleanor A. Sonsini of Pittsfield, Mary Murphy of Pittsfield and Susan Kelly of South Lee — also criticized the Selectmen for never having inspected the pound, located on the Pine Street property of Francis Clark, the dog officer.

The three said dogs were kept in unsanitary conditions in Clark's barn on short ropes. They said the short ropes were necessary to protect the dogs from cows in the barn.

Clark responds

Clark angrily denied the charges yesterday, but refused to allow a reporter to inspect the facilities where the dogs are kept.

"Those women haven't been on the property since last October, that's 10 months, so how can they run their mouths off about the conditions of the place," Clark said, standing on the front lawn of his property.

"Besides there hasn't been a dog that we've had to keep up here in about two months," Clark said.

Clark also said dogs, when he must keep them overnight, stay in a part of his barn where there are no cows, or in his house.

The Selectmen indicated they would inspect the Clark property tonight in response to the charges.

"Perhaps we have been remiss in not going up there to inspect the facilities," Selectman Chairman Edward F. Murray said. The Selectmen said they would inform the three women of their findings.

As town dog officer, Clark is paid an annual salary of $500 plus $50 in expenses. In addition, he is being paid $800 a year for the next five years to help construct a permanent dog pound, which he in turn will lease to the town. He is on call 24 hours a day.

Charles Reed, shelter manager of the Pittsfield Society for the Protection Against Cruelty to Animals, did inspect the Clark property yesterday.

"We are not satisfied with the sanitary conditions there," Reed said. "But that is a Lee Board of Health matter. Our inspection showed that the animals are in fine care and are not abused."

Clark said he has made no major improvements to the facilties themselves because of the new pound he will be building with the help of the town's $800. That money did not become available until the July 1 start of the fiscal year. The Selectmen said Monday part of the reason for their inspection tonight is to see how the $800 will be used.

Selectman Martin H. Deely said that overall he thought Clark was "doing a fine job as dog officer. He is answering complaints quickly and efficiently. The only question we have is the condition of the facilities while dogs are staying there."

Eagle 2/28/74

U. S. Fiber Corp. plans Lee plant

The U.S. Fiber Corp., a national firm which makes insulation materials out of recycled newspapers, will start a manufacturing facility in Lee in July it was announced today.

Alan L. Marden, executive director of the Berkshire County Development Commission (BCDC) said that the Ohio-based company would probably generate some 12 to 15 local jobs at first. Reached by telephone today in Delphos, Ohio, Paul J. Berkmeier, the company's president, said that "by year's end he hopes to have 25 to 30 people working in Lee.

Using Bombardier plant

The company will be moving into the Marble Street warehouse which is now being vacated by Bombardier East, Inc., a snowmobile and motorcycle retailer that employed about 21 persons when it closed last month.

The 20,000 square foot warehouse is owned by Frederick Mercer and George Van Zandt of Lee. Berkmeier said that he had signed a 10-year lease for the property.

U.S. Fiber is a privately - owned company with manufacturing plants in Pennsylvania, Iowa and North Carolina, and at the firm's headquarters in Ohio. Nationwide sales last year were $5 million, according to Berkmeier, and the company's total employment currently stands at 120.

Berkmeier said that U.S. Fiber has been enjoying a booming business over the last six months, as soaring heating costs have placed a premium on well-insulated housing.

New plant for Lee
Continued on Page 15

According to Berkmeier, the company's order backlog is up more than 50 per cent from the same time last year.

U.S. Fiber makes insulation materials for both residential and industrial uses, Berkmeier said. The materials are made primarily from defibered wood pulp and recycled newspapers which are treated with fireproofing chemicals. The loose, grainy substance is then poured or sprayed into wall and roof cavities.

Local work force

Marden said that the BCDC had been working with U.S. Fiber since last July in attempting to lure the company to the Berkshires. Berkmeier explained that he had considered locations in Connecticut and Eastern New York state but was sold on the Lee site by Marden's efforts and by the proximity of eight paper companies here and the "hopefulness" of several area paper recycling projects.

Berkmeier said that company analysts would visit the Lee facility as early as next week and that the plant should be in operation by the beginning of July.

Berkmeier said he expects to hire local persons exclusively for the Lee plant. Job training, he said, would be handled by personnel from the firm's Ohio headquarters.

THE BERKSHIRE HERALD – MARCH 6, 1974

LEE'S YOUNG CANDIDATE — James Graham, an 18-year-old senior at Lee High School, announced this week that he is seeking a seat on the School Committee in this year's annual election.

John Waring

Lee High Senior to Run For School Committee

LEE — James Graham, an 18-year-old senior at Lee High School, has announced he is a candidate for one of the two School Committee seats that will be filled in this year's annual town election.

The two seats up for grabs this May are those now occupied by John J. Loughlin, who is retiring, and Marguerite M. Tristany, who is seeking reelection.

Mr. Graham, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas F. Graham of 449 Maple Street, turned 18 last February 10 but [illegible] a recent interview. "Having attended the Lee schools, I have been affected by school policy and am thoroughly acquainted with the effect those decisions have had on courses, curricula, and the students."

Mr. Graham insisted he was not a "student's candidate" but one who can furnish the School Committee with the nuts and bolts information a student gathers while in the Lee system. He also said he can understand the positions and opinions of the taxpaying public.

"Look at it this way, in the next three years many of my classmates will be taxpaying residents of Lee and I certainly don't want to burden them or others with an excessive educational spending program."

Mr. Graham's Platform

The platform on which he will make his bid, Mr. Graham said, does not

radical but practical"—but a better use of the funds now being allocated for schools here.

His reading of the public's mood is that most residents are opposed to any massive spending program, and an equal number want a better curriculum for the non-college student.

Pointing out that many Lee High students will terminate their education with graduation, Mr. Graham said he would concentrate his efforts on improving and refining the vocational or industrial arts program at Lee High School. "We've got some good programs, such as the work-study and the housebuilding, but a more intensive and informed analysis can pave the way for improvement," he said.

"That doesn't mean we can forget the college preparatory courses," he continued. "We have to continue to provide the kind of college-prep curriculum that has enabled Lee graduates to enter the best colleges."

His Background

Mr. Graham, who in his four years at Lee High has concentrated in industrial arts and college preparatory courses, hopes to study electrical construction at an area school. He is a former member of the Student Council, vice president of the Industrial Arts Club, and student member of the re-accreditation committee.

He and other members of the Industiral Arts Club have cleaned and repaired the town beach for the Sandy Beach Committee, and Mr. Graham currently is building a set of picnic tables for the residents' use during the summer months.

Mr. Graham said his reasons for running are quite simple. Although he believes Lee has a good school system, he sees room for improvement and thinks he can help.

"An idea is like a tool," he said "You have to pick it up and use it It takes a certain amount o courage to commit yourself t three years of work, but I hav made that commitment and intend to make it work."

A161

11-18-75 Eagle

Turner quits Lee SBC post, pleads for unity on new school

LEE — Citing personal frustration with the progress of building a new middle school here as well as personal fatigue, Alfred F. Turner last night resigned as chairman and member of the School Building Commission (SBC).

Turner has served on the SBC since its inception 17 years ago. His resignation is effective immediately.

A guidance counselor at Lenox Memorial High School, Turner has expressed increasing frustration over the past several months at roadblocks which have plagued his committee's efforts to formulate plans for a new middle school.

Despite meeting three or four times a month since July, the SBC still does not have firm plans for a new middle school. The originally proposed Maple Street site for the school has been criticized as too costly and the SBC still does not know what size the classrooms in the new school will be.

The SBC has been working under intense pressure from some town residents to hold down costs. The group has also been criticized by several town officials and residents for not adequately preparing an option to the new middle school.

In his letter of resignation to the Selectmen last night Turner said:

"This resignation is in no way a reflection of any animosity towards anyone, but rather it is primarily the result of a growing frustration caused by a seemingly never ending series of obstacles which have continuously deterred the progress of the committee in its efforts to carry out the mandate of presenting a school package for town meeting vote."

Turner said in an interview yesterday that he "wished the townspeople would show more positive thinking towards building a new school.

"I feel no animosity, but it's been a lot of frustration. I'm a little tired and I want to spend more time with my family," Turner said.

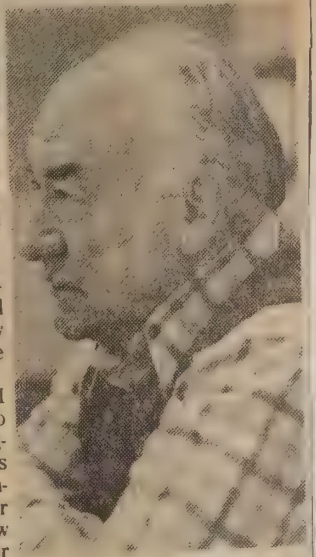
His letter of resignation contained a final plea for a unified community effort to get the new school built. Turner wrote the Selectmen:

"My final thoughts, which I feel bear enough importance to mention as a part of this resignation, is my belief that it is time for citizens of the community who are sincere in their feelings in regard to a new school to start having their voices heard in a more supportive way. I would hope that all committees concerned will work together to solve Lee's school housing needs so that the efforts on behalf of our children and our community will not have been in vain."

Turner also praised his fellow SBC members. "I have never worked with a more capable and dedicated group than the members of the Lee School Building Commission. I feel within this group are several people who can capably carry on the duties of chairman," Turner said.

Change of leadership

He also said that this was a good time for a change in leadership noting the SBC would soon meet in Boston with the state School Building Assistance Bureau (SBAB) to determine the educational specifications for the school.



Alfred F. Turner

The SBC is expected to meet later this week or early next week to select a new chairman.

The Selectmen said last night they would consult with the new chairman to determine if someone should be appointed to fill Turner's spot.

DeVarennes picked to head Lee SBC

LEE — The School Building Committee (SBC) here last night unanimously elected John E. DeVarennes of St. Mary's Avenue chairman of that committee.

He succeeds Alfred F. Turner, who resigned as chairman and member of SBC on Monday.

DeVarennes was appointed by the Selectmen earlier this year to fill a vacancy on SBC. He has been a member for about eight months.

He formerly served six years on the School Committee, three of those as chairman. He also chaired the Regional School Planning Committee in 1968.

Members of the SBC also decided last night not to fill at this time the vacancy created when Turner left.

11-21-75

Lee School Committee member Marguerite M. Tristany, second from left, and School Building Commission members, from left, Kenneth Beam, Robert Boynton and Maritta Stratton.

Photos by Ralph E. Brown

SBC Chairman Alfred F. Turner

Planning pressed for Lee middle school

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — Declaring that plans for a proposed middle school here "can't wait" for formation of a regional study group, members of the School Building Commission (SBC) last night authorized preparation of preliminary architect's drawings "with or without" state approval.

The group, however, will approach the town Finance Committee next week to seek an additional $2,000 for its budget to pay to have the plans prepared.

"Whether we reach an agreement with the state School Building Assistance Bureau (SBAB) or not, I think we should prepare the plans, present them to the town and have a decision made there as to whether we will build a new school," said SBC member Kenneth Beam.

"I think we have to disregard attempts at regionalization," added member John J. Loughlin. "We have to have a new school, so I think we should tell our architect to go ahead."

Joint session

The decision followed a joint session between the SBC and members of the School Committee called to discuss state response to initial plans for the building program here.

In a series of exchanges between school officials here and representatives of the SBAB and state Bureau of School District Reorganization and Collaboration (BSDRC), the plans have been returned with the request that they be examined or redrafted by a Lee-Otis-Tyringham regional study committee.

Officials here last night, however, expressed strong doubt that such a group could even be established — let alone design a regional school system that would be adopted by voters.

"Frankly, I don't think there's a snowball's chance in hell of getting a planning group formed," said School Committee member C. Marcel Brunell. "I don't think a town meeting would approve it."

Formation of such a committee would require a vote by a town meeting — in each town — authorizing the town moderator to appoint members to the three-town group.

"We've already spent a lot of time studying regional proposals, and I don't think that the time spent on another regional study is going to be worthwhile," added committee member Marguerite M. Tristany.

"I can't emphasize strongly enough that Central School is a problem — educationally, structurally and any other way you want to look at it," said William F. Tyer Jr., School Committee chairman.

"We can only use the junior-high wing for two years. This is not just a normal expansion of school facilities, but an emergency one. A problem exists on High Street, and we have got to do something about it regardless of what people say," he added.

"We have to keep in mind that we may reach a point with the state where we will have to go it alone. And this problem has to be presented to the town — whether we get 65 per cent reimbursement from the state or pay 100 per cent of it ourselves," he said.

Should the middle school project, which includes renovation of Central School, fail to receive SBAB approval, it would lose financial reimbursements that currently total 65 per cent of the building costs.

SBAB and BSDRC officials in Boston said this morning that failure to form a regional district would not necessarily preclude SBAB reimbursements for the project here, however.

SBC members in November chose Pittsfield architect John H. Fisher to design plans for the renovation-construction project, but to date have waited for SBAB approval before signing a contract with him telling him to begin.

Last night's action, however, indicated that the contract would be signed as soon as possible, whether or not that go-ahead is received.

In a fee-arrangement plan worked out in December, Fisher agreed to prepare plans necessary for state action and town-meeting consideration for $3,500, a figure that included $2,000 already due him for work on a survey of existing school buildings.

SBC chairman Alfred F. Turner said last night that the group's $2,000 1974 budget still has $1,600 left in it, but that an additional $2,000 would be sought from the Finance Committee to cover the total fee.

Turner last night did not indicate when the preliminary plans would be completed by Fisher, but last fall said that he would like to see a special town meeting called early this year to act on the new-school proposal.

Lee school-buildings panel to aim for single solution

6-18-75

LEE — The top priority of the School Building Commission (SBC) is the formulation of a plan for a new Middle School, SBC Chairman Alfred F. Turner told the Selectmen Monday night.

Turner said his commission hoped to present a plan for a new facility to the town by October.

Despite objections from Selectman Joseph J. Castronova, Turner said his committee was attempting to draft one plan, rather than several alternative plans, for a new facility.

"It's almost impossible to go in several directions at once. Because of the situation now with double sessions (for the town's kindergarten through Grade 8 pupils) we want to go ahead, form a plan and put it on the table," Turner said.

Wants alternatives

Castronova urged the SBC to formulate several possible plans and then let the townspeople decide which one to choose.

The SBC has been meeting for the past two years on the problem of school facilities in the town.

The Central School wing which housed the junior high school classes and a 5th grade class was closed last month because of structural deficiencies. The closing of the wing forced the town to begin double sessions.

Possible plans for a Middle School have included construction of a new facility on Maple Street, a new facility on the site of the present school, a cluster of prefabricated classrooms near the high school and the renovation of the old Kaufman Brothers warehouse off Route 102.

Monday night's discussion on the school situation included a plea to the Selectmen from Dr. Albert G. Bliss of Devon Road, whose daughter will attend the Central School next year.

"The town is not facing the real issue. Sooner or later we are going to need a new school. It is inherent on you as Selectmen to realize that we are going to need a new school. A school is going to cost more in 10 years. Why are you putting off the question of a new school? You are going to need a new school eventually but you are losing site of that long-range problem," Dr. Bliss said.

Other suggestions Monday night included one by Jon H. Larson of Theresa Terrace that the School Building Committee and the Selectmen establish a timetable for formulating the plan for the new school.

Selectman Martin H. Deely suggested the town hire a structural engineer to check the two wings of the Central School now being used. A plan submitted by the School Committee calls for the restoration of the remaining two wings of the school.

Turner said the SBC would meet weekly beginning June 26.

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26 —The Berkshire Eagle, Friday, June 27, 1975

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

OPTIONS for providing added school space needed in Lee are discussed by (clockwise from right) Nancy Warden, Robert Boynton, John J. Loughlin, Maritta Stratton, James F. Collins, Michael Vecchia, Alfred F. Turner, who is chairman of the building commission, and School Supt. Maurice J. Boulanger.

Lee School Building Commission to consider more than one solution

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — The School Building Commission (SBC) agreed last night to consider several options for a new middle school facility for the town.

The commission previously indicated it would only draw up plans for construction of a new middle-school building, probably on Maple Street.

Last night's decision, which came at a joint meeting with the Selectmen, does not mean the SBC will actually present more than one option to the town. It does mean the SBC will decide the feasibility of presenting the town with several choices for a new middle school.

SBC Chairman Alfred F. Turner said his group would decide by July 7 whether to present more than one option. He said October was the earliest his group would be able to present final plans to a special town meeting.

The Selectmen last night offered the SBC three alternatives to the construction of the Maple Street School:

—Additional clusters on the present Lee High School building.

—A new wing on the site of the Central School's present southern wing, which has been declared structurally unsafe.

—Additional portable classrooms at the Central School.

The Selectmen indicated that any of the plans would include renovation of the town's three outlying elementary schools.

Supt. Maurice J. Boulanger noted that the state Bureau of Regionalization and Collaboration has said that among the projects presented last night, only the construction of a new middle school on Maple Street would receive state aid.

The state refuses to fund any project that precludes regionalization. The state's educational specifications also say that a middle-school facility should not adjoin an elementary or high school building.

By the end of last night's meeting, members of both the SBC and Selectmen were saying that the problem boiled down to whether the town wanted a long-range or short-range solution to its school-building problems.

The long-range solution would be to build the Maple Street middle school at a greater cost than the three short-range solutions offered by the Selectmen.

The two groups agreed to work together to solve the school problem. In that vein, Turner criticized the local board of the Department of Public Works for not including the extension of the town's sewer lines to the Maple Street site in the recently unveiled $6 million sewer expansion project.

"How can a board offer a long-range sewer expansion program for the town and not include the possible site of a new school?" Turner asked.

Lee board rejects petition seeking school demolition

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — The Selectmen yesterday rejected a citizen - sponsored petition calling for the demolition of the condemned junior high wing of Central School because it didn't carry enough signatures to place it on the June 27 special town meeting.

Sponsored by Mrs. Charles E. Darbe of David Avenue, the petition called for appropriation of $35,000 for the demolition of the wing and the "proper walling off and making of new exits where the center wing now joins the south wing."

The petition, signed by 82 residents, asked that the work be completed by the beginning of classes in September.

Mrs. Darbe, who began collecting signatures Thursday, said last night that she understood Town Clerk John J. Nagle to have told her that she only needed 10 signatures to have the petition considered by the Selectmen.

But Selectman Martin M. Deely said that petitions for special town meetings need 100 signatures to require that articles be placed on the warrant.

Deely said that petitions for annual town meeting warrants only need 10 signatures.

Mrs. Darbe, who turned the petitions in to Nagle's office Friday noon, said that she sought the article "because if that building is rebuilt my great - grandchildren will still be going there."

"We strongly feel that the money proposed to fix up the outlying schools would be better put into a new school facility," Mrs. Darbe said.

Mrs. William A. Baker of Fairview Street and Mrs. John A. Godwin of Devon Road worked with Mrs. Darbe to collect the signatures.

Another article seeking funds for demolition of the wing was to have been submitted to the Selectmen by the School Building Commission (SBC), but that group has apparently decided not to do so.

The School Committee two weeks ago voted to direct the SBC to seek bids for the demolition and to prepare a warrant article seeking funds for the move.

Deely said, however, that by yesterday afternoon no such article from the SBC had appeared.

Friday was the deadline for submission of articles for the June 27 warrant, Deely said.

Lee site proposed for temporary classrooms

LEE — School Committee and School Building Commission members have decided to seek state approval to use two buildings on Railroad Street for temporary classrooms this fall for Grades 7 and 8.

Following a tour of the buildings Thursday night, the two groups asked the Selectmen to place an article on the June 27 special town meeting warrant that would appropriate $50,000 to convert the buildings to classroom use.

Funds for town purchase of the buildings, which until early this year housed the snowmobile distributing firm of Bombardier East, were appropriated by district representatives at the May 9 town meeting.

If successful, the move to use the buildings for temporary classrooms could avoid scheduling double sessions for Grades 5-8 this fall.

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

EXPLAINING WHY the southern wing of the Central School should be demolished, structural engineer Stuart H. Snyder addressed more than 150 persons at a public hearing at the high school cafetorium last night. With him on the stage are from left; School Committee Chairman Henry G. Greiner, Selectman Chairman Edward F. Murray, School Superintendent Maurice J. Boulanger and School Building Chairman Alfred F. Turner.

June 12, 1975

Consensus emerging in Lee: school wing must come down

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — The consensus of more than 150 people at a public hearing last night on the fate of the southern wing of the Central School was that a new middle school facility would have to be built as quickly as possible.

The consensus was reached after Stuart H. Snyder, the Syracuse, N.Y. structural engineer hired by the School Committee six weeks ago, told the audience that the wing's condition was irreparable.

Snyder rebuffed all suggestions that part of the wing might be saved or rehabilitated. "In our opinion, there is only one thing that can be done. The wing cannot be rehabilitated. It should be torn down," Snyder said.

By the end of the meeting, even the most outspoken opponents of building a new middle school were saying such a facility was necessary.

"We saw tonight what the people wanted. We'll have to build new facilities," said Selectman Joseph J. Castronova, who won election last month on an anti new-school platform.

"Mr. Snyder convinced me tonight that it is not economically feasible to repair the wing. We must do something. I favor building something right on the site of the present building, but I want to see all the options and their cost before I decide," Castronova said.

The wing has been closed since May 2, when Snyder told the committee the southern stairwell of the building was in imminent danger of collapse. His full report, issued May 13, recommended the building be demolished.

The closing of the wing, which housed 236 7th- and 8th-graders and a 5th grade class, has forced the town's kindergarten through 8th graders into double sessions.

After Snyder explained his report and it was questioned for about 40 minutes. discussion centered on what type of new middle school should be built.

Suggestions ranged from one by Castronova to build on the present High Street site to one by Frank P. Consolati for portable prefabricated classrooms on the land around the high school, to one by the School Committee for a new facility.

Snyder estimated the cost of a new building was about $45-per-square-foot. The new school would be about 12,000-square-foot or cost approximately $135,000. The state has indicated it would pay at least 53 per cent of the cost of new construction.

Rent Cranwell

Because of the educational problems and cost of double sessions, town officials were urged to act quickly.

School Committee Chairman Henry G. Greiner said his committee and the School Building Committee were both meeting regularly to both prepare plans for a new facility and to deal with next year.

Edward F. Murray, Selectmen chairman, said, "What we must do is go back to our separate committees and see what we think we should do. Then we can hold a joint meeting and hash the whole thing out."

"We have to get cracking. We got a clear message here tonight," Selectman Martin H. Deely said.

Greiner said plans for new facilities could be brought for a town meeting vote as soon as October.

The suggestion for next year that enjoyed the most support last night was the possibility of using the Cranwell School. The Lenox preparatory school recently announced it would not open next year.

The renting of Cranwell would end double sessions for the town's students.

The condition of the wing has been a source of controversy for the past year. A state building inspector ruled a year ago that the roof of the building was unsafe and condemned the structure.

The School Committee's architect, John H. Fisher of Pittsfield, constructed a temporary roof and the building was allowed to open last September. At the time he built the roof brace, Fisher also installed devices to monitor any movement in the wing's walls.

At the beginning of April, Fisher told the School Committee his devices showed the walls were moving. Fisher's findings were challenged by Edward M. Briggs, the town's Building Inspector, James Graham, a member of the School Committee, and Castronova.

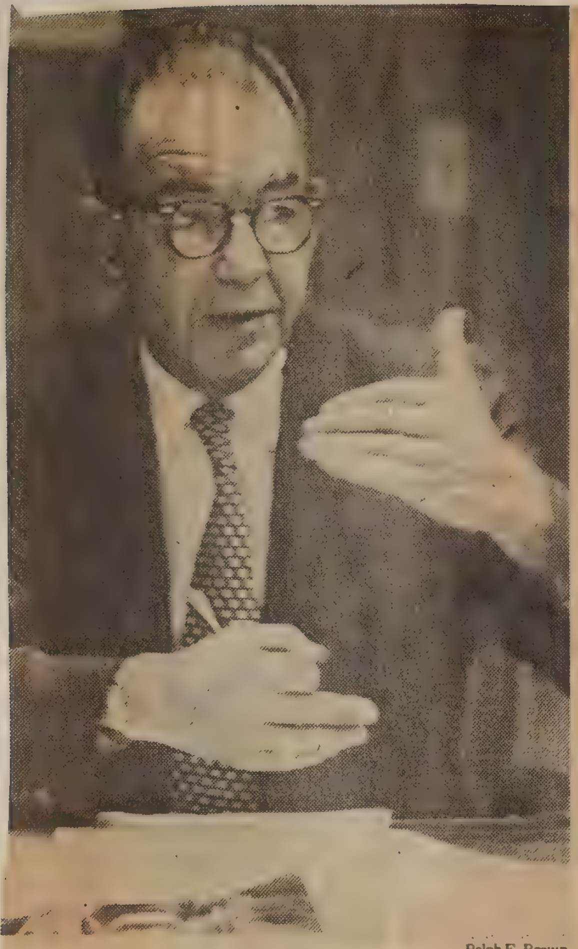
To resolve the controversy, the School Committee hired Snyder.

Annual Children's Festival will be presented Saturday from 10 to 4 at the Congregational Church park by the Lee High School dramatics club. The festival will feature puppet shows, skits and balloons.

Bills for the Town of Lee for the fiscal year ending June 30 should be presented to Treasurer John J. Nagle no later than June 20. deadline for bills paid out of 1974- 1975 accounts.

Gift dad with a Timex Watch from our vast selection Lee News Room. — Adv.

Town & Country is coming to Lee. — Adv.



Ralph E. Brown

LEE SCHOOL Supt. Maurice J. Boulanger told the Selectmen Monday that the member of school-aged children expected from the East Street apartment complex proposed by Westfield developer John S. Booke "can be absorbed" by the school system with little adverse impact.

6-19-74 Eagle

Lee meeting to vote next week on plan for school use of Railroad St. buildings

LEE — Amidst charges that they were choosing trucks over schoolchildren, the Selectmen Monday refused to give school officials permission to use two buildings on Railroad Street for temporary junior high classrooms.

Instead, Selectmen Chairman John J. Wheeler said that he and his colleagues would "abide by the wishes of the town representatives," who are to vote on funding the proposal at a special town meeting next week.

"If they want to appropriate the money for this then we'll do it," Wheeler said.

Designed to eliminate the need to place students in Grades 5 through 8 on double session this fall, the move originated Thursday evening when members of the School Committee, the School Building Commission (SBC) and the Selectmen examined the buildings, which until early this year housed the snowmobile-distributing firm of Bombardier East.

Bought for $150,000

Representatives at the May 9 annual town meeting authorized purchase of the buildings for $150,000. Town officials have envisioned using the garage, warehouse and office space there to house Department of Public Works (DPW) trucks and materiel, the town ambulance and a variety of administrative offices now placed in rented office space.

Following the Thursday tour, the School Committee submitted a warrant article to the Selectmen seeking $50,000 for conversion of the buildings to classroom space.

That figure, they concede, is only an approximate one, carrying no actual cost estimates. But warrant articles seeking funds must include a specific amount. The amount can be changed on the floor of the meeting.

School Committee and SBC members sought the Selectmen's approval for the move last night to enable them to get actual estimates of conversion costs to present to town meeting representatives next week.

If the Selectmen were opposed to the move, they reasoned, it would make poor economic sense to have architectural drawings prepared to get conversion costs.

Lack of enthusiasm

Although they neither endorsed the move nor officially turned it down, the Selectmen made clear their lack of enthusiasm for the proposal.

"Do you want a wholehearted endorsement on this?" asked Selectmen Martin H. Deely. "I think it's obvious that it's not going to come."

Deely said he was concerned that voters would again reject funding proposals for new school construction, "as they have done for the past 13 years."

If such rejection should again occur, Deely said, "I can see us in Railroad Street forever. In two years we'd be asked to appropriate funds to build a new DPW garage."

Wheeler voiced concerns that the proposal would preclude moving the town ambulance to the new building from the fire station.

"I want to see it (the ambulance) there — that is a commitment that I have made," Wheeler said.

Selectmen Edward F. Murray, saying that he thought the buildings were the "wrong place" for junior high students, said that he wanted to see cost figures for the conversion, and subsequent renovation when the space was returned to the town, before making any decision.

Fails to see logic

Clearly disappointed with the Selectmen's resistance to the move, School Committee Member Marguerite M. Tristany said she failed "to see the logic of housing trucks versus kiddos."

"If we can't delay garaging those trucks for two more years we really have a problem," she said.

School Committee Chairman William F. Tyer Jr. said the move was "the only alternative to double sessions.

"We proposed double sessions and that met with objections," Tyer said. "We were told to look for alternatives.

"Well, we've looked. This plan will avoid double sessions. Now if you object to this, what do you suggest we do?"

The Selectmen offered no answers.

If approved by town and state officials, school leaders would use moveable dividers to establish eight classroom in the warehouse building. Dropped ceilings and adequate lighting would be installed.

The office-storeroom building would be used to house shop, home economics and science programs.

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Lee Votes Down School Construction For Third Time in Two-Year Period

By PADRAIC T. SPENCE

LEE — Town representatives last night rejected by a 31-23 vote the proposed construction of a $2.85 million middle school, marking the second time that the facility has been defeated in less than two years and the third consecutive time in the same period that Lee voters have rejected plans for major expansion of school facilities.

Since a two-thirds vote was necessary for approval of the bond issue and only 23 out of the 54 total votes were favorable, the article fell far short of passage. A switch of 13 votes would have been needed for victory.

The Proposal

The special town meeting lasted 80 minutes, 65 minutes of which were devoted to discussion and a roll call vote on the middle-school issue. The meeting was attended by 51 of the 54 town representatives and approximately 55 interested residents.

The article proposed the construction of the $2.85 million facility but provided that no action would be taken for the purpose of construction of the middle school, should it be approved, until the bonds to be issued and sold to finance the construction were approved by the Emergency Finance Board and until the state School Building Assistance Bureau (SBAB) approved reimbursement to the town for the facility.

Plans for the middle school were approved by the town at a special town meeting in July 1968. However, the $2.85 million bond issue voted for the school and a pool was rescinded by a margin of 12 votes at an August 1968 special town meeting. A $2.6 million bond issue for a middle school without the pool was defeated at the same meeting by a margin of 49 votes. Approximately 550 residents voted on the issue at these meetings.

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Last October Lee voters defeated 538-234 a proposal for a regional school district for Lee, Lenox, Otis and Tyringham. The same evening, Tyringham approved the proposal, while Otis and Lenox voted against it.

Last night's vote ended the controversy that has divided the town since a petition with 377 signatures, requesting a special town meeting to consider again a middle school, was submitted in early May. While there was unanimity over the fact that the middle school would be the best solution educationally for the town's school-space needs, the school committees, town officials and residents were split on whether such a facility would be approved by the SBAB for the minimum of 40 per cent state aid.

New Try Fails
Continued on Page 19

The School Committee acknowledged in a school building philosophy report released in May that the middle school "is still the ideal school for Lee children." However, a majority felt that such a school would not receive any state aid, since it would preclude regionalization, contrary to dictates of the SBAB.

Since rejection of the regionalization proposal last fall, the School Committee and the School Building Committee have turned in the direction of construction of a kindergarten-through-Grade-4 facility, which they felt complied with SBAB guidelines and did not preclude eventual regionalization. Many members of the committees had fought for the middle school in 1968 and some abandoned the cause reluctantly. But they thought, in Dr. William J. Baker's words, that the town would have to settle for "fried chicken with state aid" and forgo "the filet mignon."

However, dissension in the two committees was evident last night as William F. Tyer Jr. and Charles G. Tucker of the School Committee and Kenneth Beam of the School Building Committee urged the representatives to approve the middle school proposal.

Tyer told the representatives that the School Committee and the School Building Committee had been "brainwashed" by the SBAB into believing that the middle school would preclude regionalization while a K-4 facility would not. He contended that the middle school, if approved, would be funded by the state and that "the bureaucratic brainwashers (of the SBAB) should be told what the people want."

Mrs. Charles W. Stratton, initiator of the petition requesting a special town meeting on the middle school, presented a detailed account of the expenses involved in regionalization. She argued that the town could save considerable sums by building a middle school rather than postponing school expansion.

The united stand against the middle school taken by the Selectmen a week ago Thursday was dissolved when Henry Piekos announced last night that he had reconsidered, and cast his lot with the middle-school supporters.

While the members of the committee and several representatives and residents debated whether the SBAB would approve the middle school as it had in 1968 or whether the facility would be more expensive than K-4 school construction, the proposal was ultimately defeated by the prevailing sentiment of a majority of the representatives and probably most of the residents that wage-earning taxpayers could ill afford the $6.20 tax hike for construction. Representative Dominic A. Biasin observed during the discussion that the proponents of the middle school all seemed to have good jobs, and could afford the tax increase. "But what about the clock-punchers?" he asked. Representative James V. Bianco echoed his views, commenting that the "man in the street" did not favor the middle school.

Many representatives and residents who addressed the meeting favored the proposed school, and the sizable margin by which the article was defeated surprised many in the Central School auditorium. Proponents of the school were cheered when representatives from District 1, the first on the roll call vote, cast their votes 8 to 1 in favor. District 2 voted 6 to 2 against, with one representative absent. When the representatives from District 3 were polled, they stood 9 to 0 against the article and it was evident that the two-thirds vote needed for approval on a bond issue was in doubt. District 4 voted 5 to 3 in favor with one representative absent, thereby blocking the issue from attaining the necessary two-thirds majority. District 5 voted 8 to 1 against, thereby defeating the middle school and District 6 went on record as 5 to 3 in favor, with one representative absent.

Moderator Henry M. Donahoe announced the tally, but then realized that the three representatives-at-large had not been sentatives-at-large had not been polled. Chairman of the Selectmen Andre W. Jaouen cast his vote against; Chairman of the Finance Committee Henry G. Greiner and Selectman Henry Piekos voted in favor. The final vote stood 13 votes shy of the 36 needed for passage of the article.

When the meeting was over, some of the confusion and controversy which have marked school expansion plans for the past two months had passed. Mrs. Stratton, principal advocate of the middle school, who had worked for several months on the issue, said that she did not anticipate a referendum vote on the article. There had been rumors that residents on both sides of the issue would seek such a vote after the representative meeting.

But school officials say Lee is still in need of additional school space, and construction on the School Committee's recommended K-4 facility is at least 18 to 24 months away. The School Building Committee has completed the first of 12 steps in planning for such a school with the SBAB. Even the size of such a school is in dispute. The SBAB advocated the construction of a 350 pupil K-4 school at a recent meeting with the School Committees.

On its face, the first representative town meeting appeared to observers to be an orderly and efficient means of town government. The representatives had attended two informational meetings in the past two weeks and they had formulated their positions on the issues in advance of the meeting. Business was dispatched with a minimum of debate.

But efforts by representatives to meet formally with their constituents had met with little success. Representative William Demos, Chairman of District 3 reported that only five residents appeared at a district meeting last Wednesday. The district has an estimated population of 1,064. Other district meetings had only slightly higher attendance figures.

On the previous votes on the middle school, an estimated 650 to 700 persons attended. Last night only 55 persons, aside from representatives, were present.

7/19/70

Lee

SOUTH BERKSHIRE BUREAU—Tel. 243-2424

Letter in January Outlined State View on School Issue

LEE — John Hogden of the state School Building Assistance Bureau (SBAB) confirmed by telephone yesterday that he had written in a letter to Lee School Supt. Maurice J. Boulanger on Jan. 13 that "it is inadvisable to reactivate the middle school until the results of further regional study are known."

The letter was a response by the SBAB to an inquiry by Boulanger on behalf of the School Committee as to the advisability of resurrecting the middle school plan first proposed to Lee residents in 1968.

Kept Secret

The letter was not disclosed to the public or town meeting representatives before the recent special town meeting at which the Middle School proposal was again voted down. Some members of the School Committee were also not advised that such a letter had been sent by the SBAB.

Boulanger alluded to the letter in an interview last week. Why the letter was not made public was not explained at the time. Boulanger has not been available for comment this week because he is attending a one-week seminar in Illinois.

In the letter Hogden stated that one of the reasons for the defeat of a proposed regional high school for Lee, Lenox, Tyringham and Otis the previous November had been the absence of detailed consideration of vocational facilities. Therefore he recommended that delegations to a regional school district planning committee be appointed to reconsider regional plans. At the annual town meeting in February, Lee voters approved the formation of a three-man delegation to work with comparable delegations from Tyringham and Lenox in re-examining possible plans for regionalization.

Specifics Unstated

While Hogden did not specifically state whether the SBAB would approve state aid for a middle school, which may be put before the voters again in a possible referendum the end of this month, he did remark that he doubted that voters would approve two substantial bond issues, one for a middle school and the second for a regional high school. The implication of his remarks was that he concurred with members of the School Committee and school building committee, who contended that approval of a middle school would, in effect, preclude regionalization.

Hogden conceded that a kindergarten-through-Grade-4 facility for 600-800 pupils might also preclude the chance of voters approving a second bond issue for a regionalization building program.

At no time in the interview did he state what action the SBAB might take in its consideration of whether or not to fund either facility. He only stated that "if Lee got involved in a substantial bond issue, the size of the sum would preclude the desire (of the voters) to get involved in a second substantial bond issue."

As an alternative to major construction, Hogden suggested that a K-4 facility that would accommodate the 350 pupils now housed in peripheral elementary schools might be approved by town voters because the expense of such a school would be considerably less than 600 to 800 pupil facilities.

Hogden said that the school space needs of the town might require as many as three new facilities — an elementary school, a regional high school and a regional vocational-technical high school.

"The question is one of phasing those possible facilities in a manner which would be acceptable to taxpayers," he said.

All communities face this same problem, he said. In Lee's case, Hogden indicated that the school building program might involve three gradual steps, but added that "we must get down to the practical side—how much can we handle."

Responding to an inquiry on various means of regionalization for Lee, Lenox and Tyringham schools, Hodgen said that a plan might be acceptable to the SBAB whereby the present Lee High School, with an addition, would become a regional high school. Under this plan, Lenox High School would be utilized as a middle school and the Central School in Lee would serve as a regional K-4 facility.

He said that he had suggested this as a possible solution to school space needs in the early stages of consideration of regional plans a few years ago. He remarked that such a plan might require extensive additions to the existing Lee High School and Lenox schools.

18—The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, Jan. 7, 1975

Lee school unit again urged to form regional-study board

LEE — State education officials have reaffirmed their desire to see a Lee - Otis - Tyringham committee formed to study prospects for regionalization of the three districts, Lee School Building Commission chairman Alfred F. Turner said today.

Disclosing the contents of a letter received yesterday, Turner said that officials of the state School Building Assistance Bureau (SBAB) "don't necessarily want a regional building, but they are looking for long-range planning of a regional nature."

SBAB representatives last month, in response to a local request for approval of a proposed building program, asked that the regional committee be established. Officials here, however, asked for clarification of the request.

"I'm beginning to think that at long last, the state is going to put some teeth into their laws concerning regionalization. It looks as though we might be up against a stone wall," Turner said.

Aid eligibility

SBAB approval of school building plans is necessary before the town can be certified as eligible to receive reimbursement for building costs. The reimbursement rate here, currently 65 per cent, may drop to 50 per cent by July 1.

"I think that the fact that the Lee - Otis - Tyringham school union may be dissolved within three years has an awful lot of weight as to state answers to our plans," Turner said.

A bill, scheduled to be considered by the state legislature this session, proposes a state-wide dissolution of all school unions.

Turner said that a regionalized approach to education here conceivably could be designed only on an administrative basis. Such a plan could keep school buildings serving lower grades in the individual towns, send older students to schools here and retain an administrative umbrella over all similar to that currently existing under the union structure.

An administrative regionalization could eliminate the need to construct purely regional buildings, but mix existing and proposed ones on a local and regional basis.

Delay possible

Formation of the committee and development of long-range plans will delay renovation and building plans here, Turner said.

"I don't think it wise to delay those plans, but, in light of economic and other considerations, delay might be something that we should give some thought to," Turner said.

Building commission members will consider the state response at a meeting Thursday, Turner said.

Regional proposals, and the committees that have produced them, have met stiff opposition from voters here in past years.

Eagle
1/9/75

Lee authorities to discuss state push for regional school

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — Members of the School Committee and the School Building Commission (SBC) tonight will discuss state requests for formation of a regional-school planning committee.

The session, which is open to the public, will start at 7:30 in the high school library.

In a series of exchanges that began last month, officials of the state School Building Assistance Bureau (SBAB) and Bureau of Regionalization and Collaboration (BRC) have returned initial plans for a middle school here with the request that the plans be examined — or new ones be drafted — by a Lee-Otis-Tyringham regional group.

* * * *

Such action could result in a call for formation of a regional school district for the three towns, an idea that has not received support in past years. Actual formation of a district, however, would require supporting votes by residents in each town.

School Committee members here this week voiced optimism that a middle-school proposal for Lee can win state approval without regionalization.

Committeeman C. Marcel Brunell, a veteran of earlier middle-school discussions, said yesterday that BRC desire for regionalization "doesn't mean that the approach chosen by the community is not going to be followed.

* * * *

"There's no question in my mind that if we go to the SBAB with a resonable solution to our problems, and voice it in a reasonable tone, that we can get a middle school without establishing a regional district," he said.

"We're in a horse-trading type of business with the SBAB," said committee chairman William F. Tyer Jr. Tuesday. "We've got to sit down at a table and negotiate with them."

SBC chairman Alfred F. Turner said Tuesday that if formation of a regional district is eventually required, the district could be established on a purely administrative basis.

Such a district would consolidate administration of the three districts, but would not consolidate physical facilities. Students in the three towns could continue to attend lower grades in each town, then, as they do now, join classes here for higher grades.

Turner's assessment was reinforced yesterday by BRC director Peter Murphy.

"There is no reason that towns in a district would have to consolidate facilities if adequate school faculities already exist," Murphy said. "And, the financial incentives available to regional districts can be made available under such a plan."

* * * *

Those incentives, which under legislation taking effect this July no longer require construction of a regional building to be started, would provide assistance for both capital and operating costs of the district.

Reimbursements for construction of buildings in the district, such as the middle school proposed here, would range from a minimum of 60 per cent to a maximum of 75 per cent of costs, depending on equalized valuation fo the three towns, Murphy said.

Ralph E. Brown

REPAIR PLANS for the condemned junior high wing of Central School were contested at a public hearing last night by School Committee chairman William F. Tyer Jr. (standing). Other attending the hearing include (from left) Planning Board member Dana P. LaDuke, School Committee member James F. Graham, School Building Commission chairman Alfred F. Turner, Planning Board member Sally K. Weiss, School Building Commission member Maritta Stratton, Finance Committee member Milton Gordon and town meeting representative Annette Gordon. Tyer said piecemeal repair of schools could jeopardize state assistance.

Plan to restore school building outlined, attacked at Lee hearing

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — Amid declarations that the condemned junior high wing of Central School has "outlived its usefulness" and shouldn't be repaired, town Building Inspector Edward M. Briggs last night outlined plans for a restoration of the wing that he said could be completed in 30 days for $32,000.

The move drew warnings, however, from School Committee chairman William F. Tyer Jr. and School Building Commission chairman Alfred F. Turner, both of whom said that such a project could jeopardize state funding of a unified refurbishing and building plan for the entire school system.

Quasi-public hearing

The exchange came at a quasi-public hearing held by the Selectmen to get details on the repair plan, which Briggs first presented to the Selectmen last week.

Armed with petitions bearing the signatures of 144 persons who support the move to repair the 57-year-old former high school building, Briggs told the 25 residents and town officials at the hearing that the proposal involved removing heavy, 1½-inch-thick plaster ceilings and replacing them with lighter suspended ones.

The petitions ask the Selectmen to place on the warrant for the June 27 special town meeting an article calling for the appropriation of $100,000 for the repair project.

Briggs also said that the plan called for replacing roof rafters "everywhere that needs it," and for pouring 15 two-foot-square concrete piers inside the walls and at the center of the wing from the basement to the roof.

Briggs said that the walls could be tied to the new piers with steel rods to prevent the wall movement that many think is contributing to the shrinking area on which rafters are resting.

Goggins quoted

Briggs said that State Building Inspector James T. Goggins, who in March ordered the junior high wing evacuated by June 20, had called the plan "feasible" after hearing an oral report on it.

But Goggins cautioned that before it could receive his approval, the plan would have to be translated into detailed drawings by a structural engineer and sent to the state for review, Briggs said.

Briggs said that he prepared cost estimates for the plan, using standard labor and service rates and estimates from local contractors.

He estimated that labor costs for the project would be $14,472, and that materials for the suspended ceilings would total $3,330. Other costs, he said, included $1,800 for a truck and driver, $3,000 for electrical work, $2,200 for concrete, $5,000 for miscellaneous expenses and $2,100 for other supplies.

His figure did not include the cost of preparing engineering drawings, he said, and estimated they would be approximately $5,000.

Tyer and Turner, detailing highlights of a meeting they had had last week with Joseph A. Bishop, a school plant specialist with the State School Building Assistance Bureau (SBAB), said that prospects for state funding of the repair plan were nonexistent.

Should the town develop a plan for refurbishing existing buildings or building a new one, or both, that met with SBAB approval, it could receive reimbursements of 65 per cent of the cost of the project.

"We asked him specifically about renovations," Tyer said. "He said that renovations must meet standards that are equal to what new structures provide.

"If we can't renovate and provide facilities that meet those standards," Tyer said, "they won't pay."

Tyer also said that prospects for state assistance would be greatly enhanced if plans presented to the SBAB represented a coordinated approach to upgrading the complete school building system, rather than a part of it.

Architect Fisher's report due tonight on Lee school

LEE — John H. Fisher, the Pittsfield architect hired last fall to prepare a detailed assessment of the physical condition of all Lee public schools, will issue his report tonight in a joint session of the School Committee and the School Building Commission.

The session will be public, and will be held at the high school library at 7:30.

Originally planned for release in July, completion of the study was accelerated by the March condemnation of the junior high wing of Central School by State Building Inspector James T. Goggins.

It was Fisher who discovered the crumbling beam-supports in the 57-year-old former high school during a structural examination of the building. Following that discovery, he asked Goggins to inspect the wing. Goggins's order to "discontinue" use of the junior high school came a day after that inspection.

The two school groups ordered the Fisher study to obtain accurate, specific figures on the cost of bringing the school buildings up to current safety and educational specifications.

The report is expected to be specific to the point of providing actual estimates of the cost of replacing doors and windows, jacking up floors and installing new tile, lighting fixtures and blackboards.

The report is also expected to include recommendations to either refurbish or abandon buildings included in the survey.

5-21-75

Lee Selectmen ponder response to school issue

LEE — Selectmen have delayed until Wednesday their response to a structural engineer's report which recommends that the junior high school wing of Central School be torn down. "We need to take the report home and digest it," Selectman chairman Edward F. Murray said. The Selectmen also indicated they would set up a meeting next week with the School Building Commission to discuss the problem of the school's wing.

Nov' 17 1975

One Lee school site ruled out as drilling discloses rock layer

LEE — Hopes that a new middle school could be built near the cliff in back of the high school have been dashed by test drillings which show that a 30-foot-thick layer of rock would have to be moved, School Building Commission (SBC) Chairman Alfred F. Turner said today.

Turner said that leveling the site would be prohibitively expensive. The SBC was interested in the site because it would cost less to extend sewer and water lines there than to the Maple Street site the SBC has been considering.

The Maple Street site will be staked out to show the exact location of the school, parking lot and playing fields, and inspected by the SBC and other town officials next Saturday, Turner said.

The cost of leveling the Maple Street site will be between $15,000 and $18,000, architect John H. Fisher told the SBC at its meeting Thursday night.

In addition to the high cost of extending water and sewer lines and anticipated traffic problems on narrow and twisting Maple Street, the principal problem with the site is that th athletic fields may fall under the provisions o the state's Wetlands Protection Act.

The SBC is still considering using the pin grove area between the rear of the high schoo and Tamarack Road as a school site. But the SBC has not formally studied the area yet, Turner said.

The pine grove land is owned by the Conservation Commission, and the SBC must still find out if the land can be used for anything other than conservation purposes. The state paid half the purchase price of the land, with the understanding that the Conservation Commission would use the land only for conservation purposes.

"We are still concerned about the cost of extending the water and sewer lines for such a long haul as Maple Street. If we could get a place closer to existing lines that was still a good school site, we would certainly consider it," Turner said.

An SBC subcommittee will meet tonight at 7:30 at the high school to consider the educational specifications for the new middle school.

12-17-75

Lee votes funds to raze school wing

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — Town-meeting representatives last night voted $12,500 for the demolition of the condemned southern wing of the Central School at a 40-minute special town meeting.

The $12,500 covers a $12,200 bid from Western Massachusetts Contracting Engineers, Inc., of Lee, for the work, the $250 architectural fee of John H. Fisher of Pittsfield and $50 for legal advertising.

The one issue that was expected to cause debate—how to fill three doorways of the main portion of the school that will be exposed when the southern wing comes down — was apparently resolved. Henry G. Greiner, a District 2 representative and chairman of the School Committee, said just before the vote that he had been told that afternoon by Milo Bouce, the foreman of the company, that the company would leave enough block from the southern wing to fill the three 12-foot by 8-foot doorways.

Greiner also reported Bouce said the stone would be left at no cost to the town.

Bouce was "out on a job" this morning and could not be reached, according to a secretary at Western Massachusetts Contractors.

The Selectmen said at their meeting Tuesday night that they would ask $15,000 for the job. The amount was lowered "because we felt we just had to go with the bid as it came in and the other added costs," according to Selectmen Martin H. Deely.

The Selectmen said Tuesday night the extra $2,500 would cover the cost of filling in the three doorways.

The three doorways will be on the outer wall if the town builds a new middle school on Maple Street. But if the town decides to build a new wing on the site of the present condemned wing, the three doorways will be used as entrances to the wing. The doorways will also be utilized if the town decides to build a cafeteria on the site, a plan being discussed by the School Building Commission.

The specifications call for the three doorways to be closed with heavy-duty plywood.

The actual demolition work will be done over Christmas vacation. The steel supports on the southern wing will be saved and stored near the Railroad Street office building.

The voice vote which approved the $12,500 article came after 30 minutes of debate. Most of the debate centered on the cost of filling the doorways and criticism of town officials for not saving the marble walls of the southern wing.

"My concern is that some of the blocks from the southern wing should be saved so we can fill the doorways without having to buy back the materials. I was remiss in not checking the specifcations," Selectmen Joseph J. Castronova said before Greiner's announcement.

Lee marble

Other representatives said they were upset that the Lee marble of the walls was not being saved.

"Because that building is built of Lee marble, it's an historic landmark, and I think we should save some of it," Charlotte Davis, a District 6 representative said.

"That stone seems too valuable just to throw away. The problem tonight is that we don't have an option telling us how much it would cost to take the building down by hand instead of with a ball and chain," Michael D. Scolforo, a District 5 representative said.

"All we're doing is tearing down that building and giving the contractor the marble. And then we'll just go and buy it back from him again," William B. Navin, a District 3 representative, said.

Selectman Martin H. Deely responded that while he did not know the exact cost of taking down the building by hand, such a procedure would be a "substantial investment, probably double what it is costing now."

Other representatives objected to taking down the condemned wing over Christmas vacation. "The building should be taken down at the same time as the new building goes up so we can utilize the materials," James F. Nolan, a District 5 representative said.

But Selectmen Chairman Edward F. Murray read the final report of Stuart H. Snyder, a structural engineer hired to check the wing. The report said the building should be taken down immediately because it was a safety hazard, Murray reported.

Three other articles were also passed last night in less than 10 minutes of discussion.

The articles were:

— An amendment to the town's bylaws to forbid the storage of an unregistered motor vehicle, except motorcycles or farm machinery, in a yard or lot for more than 120 days. A violation carries a $5-a-day fine. The law was originally passed last year as a zoning law, but the state Attorney General's office ruled the law should be a town bylaw.

— An amendment to the town's zoning map to reclassify the area on West Park Street that includes the old Quaker State Motor Oil store and Dave's Service Center from R-20 (residential use with a 20,000-square-foot minimum lot) to BM (Business Multiple).

— The acceptance of a $4,406 community development grant from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. The money will be used to construct a kitchen for the town's elderly citizens in the Railroad Street office building.

5/20/75 Eagle

Lee school board chairman blasts town meeting attack on committee

LEE — William F. Tyer, outgoing chairman of the School Committee, last night castigated the town-meeting representative who led the effort to reject the School Committee's report at the annual town meeting May 8.

Tyer blasted "the representative from Fairview Street," whom he later identified as Frank P. Consolati of District 4, for "remarks designed to confuse and upset the discussion over an emotional issue the 6,000 people of our town face."

Allied story on Page 15

At the town meeting, Consolati angrily argued that the School Committee's annual report should be rejected because the committee had made only temporary repairs to the southern wing of the Central School despite a mandate to make permanent repairs.

Consolati said at the town meeting that a special town meeting on June 27, 1974, had instructed the School Committee to make permanent repairs to the school. He objected to a section of the committee's annual report which discussed "temporary" repairs to the school.

"I think we were sold a bill of goods," Consolati said on the floor of the May 8 town meeting. "I think we were taken. That was supposed to be a first-class repair job on that building and now they have to close it again."

The June 27 special town meeting raised and appropriated $46,000 "to repair the portion of the . . . school . . . which was declared unsafe by the state Department of Public Safety."

James T. Goggins, the state building inspector, had declared the southern wing unsafe.

A structural engineer's report released yesterday said that the southern wing of the Central School was beyond repair and should be demolished.

Tyer last night read a letter to him (Tyer) from Town Counsel James P. Dohoney which said:

"It is my opinion that no work beyond a repair of the portion declared unsafe was authorized by the article (at the special town meeting). My reading of the letter of James T. Goggins to Maurice (Boulanger, school superintendent), indicates that (Goggins) declared the southwest wing unsafe. His conclusion was reached because of the deterioration of the outside walls and the wood compression of the roof systems."

"After reading Dohoney's letter Tyer said, "I am personally upset. I think the committee has been slandered and the Building Commission put to ridicule and we all deserve an apology."

Tyer said he didn't know what Consolati's intent was in leading the effort to reject the School Committee's report.

The rejection of the report had no legal ramifications. The town meeting May 8 voted to approve the $2,005,798 school budget, and $5,589 for a new truck for school use.

The town meeting preceded the town election by three days. The question of whether to build a new school was a key issue in the three-way race for Selectman. The winning candidate, Joseph J. Castronova, opposed building a new Central School.

The second-place finisher, Jon H. Larson, strongly backed the building of a new school. The third-place finisher, William O'Brien, supported building a new school, but with reservations.

Tyringham re-elects Clark

TYRINGHAM — Robert K. Clark won re-election to a three-year term as selectman yes-

27

Lee school needs

To the Editor of THE EAGLE:—

Irene's Navin's speculation [Letters, March 2] that Lee schools will have empty classrooms in a few years is far-fetched.

No question that there is a decline in the birth rate; however, we cannot stop contractors from building new homes or the many citizens who are moving in from out of state. Lee and Lenox have grown and will continue to grow, as have many other small towns in Berkshire County in the past 10 years.

What Mrs. Navin fails to talk about are the students involved and the curriculum being offered them. In a regional school, the individual student will have a better chance of getting courses he is interested in. Each town *knows* it cannot afford this alone—they have not been able to do it in the past 15 years—or economically provide the facilities for more individualized instruction. The only way we can do this is by regionalization. The cost of this proposal is much more reasonable than any local solution — which still would not give us the curriculum offered in this proposal.

Considering the overcrowded conditions we have *now* in all towns concerned and the above-mentioned advantages, voters should consider the regional proposal in a positive way. It attacks our problems better than any local solution can.

(Mrs.) PAULINE REID
776 East St.
Lenox

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

APPEALING THE DECISION not to reappoint him next year, Lee music teacher Larry Porter (in tie without jacket) addresses the School Committee while some of his 70 supporters who attended last night's meeting look on. To right of Porter is Henry G. Greiner, chairman of the committee.

June 4. 1975

Lee music teacher battles for reappointment

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — More than 70 persons, half of them students, crowded into the School Committee meeting last night to protest the firing of music teacher Larry Porter. Porter has been denied appointment to a fourth-year as a teacher by the committee.

Reappointment to a fourth year would automatically give Porter tenure. Last night marked the third time parents have attended a committee meeting to back Porter, but the first time he has attended.

Porter, reading a statement asking the committee to reconsider its decision, said he understood the decision was based on the small number of students who elect to play brass instruments, and on his methods of classroom control.

Porter gives lessons in brass instruments, conducts the brass ensemble and helps run other musical groups in the school system.

Porter said the number of students studying brass instruments had tripled since he began teaching three years ago. There will be 17 students next year in the elementary school band, the area in which Porter said he had the most discipline control.

He said part of the problem he faced was that boys of elementary and high-school-age often preferred to play sports rather than practice instruments.

Porter said both the allure of playing an instrument and his ability to control the classroom were hampered by the facilities he used.

"A music lesson for most brass students usually means confinement in a 6-foot-by-six-foot cubicle with no air flow, poor lighting, a high noise level and no teaching aids," Porter said.

Further describing the facilities problem, Porter said:

"During the winter months when junior high school intramural basketball games are in full swing, my band must meet on the stage (of the gymnasium) and try to rehearse while the noise from the games and spectators distracts the attention of the band members and increases the difficulty for me, as the teacher, of communicating with them. In addition to control problems, the noise level creates musical problems as well."

Different philosophies

In response to a question from committee member Marguerite Tristany, Porter said the written evaluations of his classroom control were written by Charles O. DiNunzio, director of the music department. Porter said he and DiNunzio had different philosophies of how a classroom should be run.

Speaking of the lack of students in the brass instrument program and the problems of classroom control, Porter said, "I always knew these were my problems but I never considered them to be my fault. I worked to correct them."

Chairman Henry G. Greiner said the committee would take Porter's request under advisement and inform him of its decision by its next meeting on June 17.

Greiner said the committee appreciated the problem of facilities and told the 70 persons, "I just hope you will remember what was said here and support us when we try to get better school facilities."

6-16-75

Frank V. McCarthy

Lee High drama club holds carnival

Lee High student Jane Bach applies makeup to customer April Jencks at one of the booths set up by Lee High drama club at its 3rd annual carnival Saturday at the Congregational Church park in Lee. Robert Spear, drama coach, said the club expected to make about $250 for its scholarship fund. Girl at right is Patty DeFreest. Carnival booths included puppet shows.

6-18-75

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

ACCEPTING CONGRATULATIONS after being granted tenure by the Lee School Committee last night is music teacher Larry Porter.

Lee teacher rehired in board vote-switch

LEE — The School Committee reversed two earlier votes and last night granted tenure to music teacher Larry Porter as more than 70 of Porter's supporters jammed the high school library to watch the proceedings.

Last night's 6 to 0 vote nullified votes on June 3 and June 5 which denied Porter reappointment to a fourth year in the school system. A teacher receives automatic tenure when he is appointed to a fourth year.

The June 3 vote was 6 to 0 to deny reappointment. The June 5 vote ended in a 3 to 3 tie. Under committee bylaws a tie vote on a tenure decision means the reappointment is denied.

Switching their votes last night were chairman Henry G. Greiner, C. Marcel Brunell and James. M. Graham. Voting in favor of reappointing Porter both last night and on June 5 were Joseph Savery, William F. Tyer and Marguerite Tristany.

Graham and Greiner could not be reached this morning to explain why they switched their votes. Brunell said, "At this point I am not prepared to give a detailed explanation of why I switched."

Receiving reappointment is a clear victory for the Central School music teacher who has fought since last April the non-reappointment recommendation of Charles O. DiNunzio, director of the music department, Raymond B. Kavey, principal of the Central School and Stephen A. Cozzaglio, assistant principal of Central School.

Porter and his supporters have appeared at four School Committee meetings since April 1 asking the committee to reconsider.

Porter gives lessosn in brass instruments, conducts the brass ensemble and helps run other musical groups in the school system.

The three administrators had recommended that Porter not be rehired because of his alleged lack of classroom control and because the number of players in the brass ensemble (Porter's speciality) had not increased.

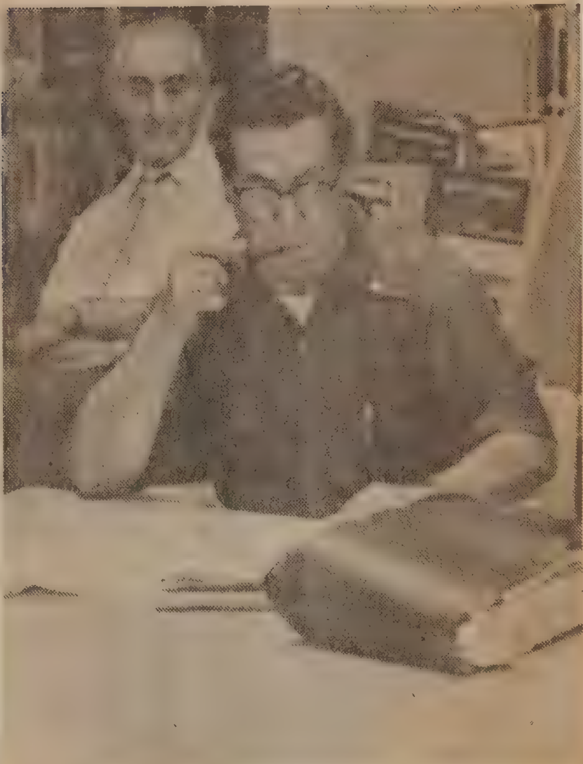
In the June 3 meeting and again last night, Porter countered the charges of lack of control by saying he had never lost control of a classroom and that he didn't believe in forcing students to practice or attend rehearsals. He said that philosophy differed from DiNunzio's. But last night he said he had become a stricter disciplinarian in the past two months.

Porter said the number of members in the brass ensemble had increased from seven when he began three years ago to 13 this year. He said poor practice facilities and the lure of sports hindered the recruitment of more players.

The board's decision to rehire Porter came at the end of a 90-minute discussion. The vote was greeted by prolonged applause from Porter's supporters.

Greiner thanked the people for showing concern for School-Committee business.

July 16 1975



LISTING HIS grievances with the committee's handling of the Porter affair is Central School Vice Principal Stephen Cozzaglio. He and Kavey also asked for a clarification of their administrative responsibilities.

air disgruntlement of music teacher

people. The letter does not have one fact, but is three pages of unsubstantiated generalizations that amount to nothing," William F. Tyer said.

"I made a mistake in the Larry Porter case and I did the best I could to correct it . . . I did not vacillate under pressure. I don't give a hoot if there had been 50 million people in here. I feel I made a mistake and I tried to correct it," Tyer said.

Marguerite Tristany told the administrators she "was worried that you think this action was against you, personally, rather than based on the facts we had at our last vote. Some school committees may vacillate, but this one does not. If I had one glimmer that this committee vacillated, then I would be on the wrong committee."

* * * *

Greiner said he hoped the Porter issue ended with last night's meeting. "We were all [illegible]ing to do what we thought was [illegible]or the school system," he said.

Porter's case drew wide interest in the community after the School Committee voted in April and on June 6 to back up the recommendation of Kavey and Cozzaglio and not rehire the music teacher. The committee reversed its two earlier decisions on June 17 and rehired Porter.

The administrators said they based their recommendation on the small number of students Porter had attracted to the brass music program and on his alleged lack of classroom control.

Band members and their parents appeared at four School Committee meetings to protest the committee's actions. Porter personally appealed his case twice to the committee.

Committee members said they reversed their decision on Porter because of additional information about the class supplied by Porter and his claim that he hadn't been reviewed thoroughly.

The Berkshire Eag

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

STATE OFFICIAL Stephen H. Hart (standing) of the School Building Assistance Bureau explains state policy on new school facilities at a meeting last night of the Lee School Building Commission. From left are SBC members John E. DeVarennes, Chairman Alfred F. Turner, John Loughlin, Hart, Robert Lucy (with back to camera) and Robert Boynton. About 20 people attended the meeting.

Eagle 7/25/75

State may not have funds to help Lee pay for new school

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — The state would probably only help fund construction of a new middle school proposal among the four options for a new school facility being weighed by the town, an official of the School Building Assistance Bureau said here last night.

But the official, Stephen H. Hart, cast doubt on the future availability of funds. "The Governor is asking us to restrict our 1977 budget to our 1976 level of $105 million. Most of that money will have to go to outstanding committments already undertaken. It almost appears there may not be sufficient monies, unless Dukakis changes his mind," Hart said.

While Lee would not request money from the state until the 1978 fiscal year, Hart said there was no guarantee there would be more funds available then. The state will fund about 53 per cent of the cost of a new school.

The three other school building options being considered by the town — the ones Hart said probably would not receive state funding even if the state has the money — are the construction of a new middle school wing on the site of the present southern wing, construction of additional wings to the high school and the purchase of portable classrooms for the area around the present Central School.

Hart told members of the School Building Commission and about 20 other persons gathered last night at the high school, that the state would place no restrictions on the construction of any of the three "local" options.

"We don't have policing power over options undertaken without state aid. It's true that a town can do damage to its educational product because of political pressure exerted on the town level, but you can do as you wish," Hart said.

"What you do on your own doesn't go through state channels. No one says you must have a cafeteria, an auditorium or a gym," he said. "The only thing you have to worry about are the standards of the Department of Public Safety."

Discussing the three local options, Hart said they probably would not be funded.

He said construction of a new wing on the site of the condemned southern wing would not be economically worthwhile. "If a renovation project costs half of the cost of a new building, since the state gives 50 per cent of the cost of a new building, we are mostly interested in new buildings," Hart said.

While exact figures are not available, SBC members have said demolition of the old southern wing and building a new wing will cost about half of the cost of a new middle school on Maple Street.

Hart said construction of new wings on the high school would probably not be economically feasible. He said if the student body at the high school was increased, it would mean large-scale renovations to existing facilities so that the high school would continue to have college accreditation.

Robert Lucy, principal of the high school, confirmed that the gym, library and other facilties would have to be enlarged significantly to meet accreditation standards.

Hart said the state would not fund portable classrooms because they were not permanent buildings.

However Hart said the possibility of portables should not be ruled out. "It might not be my choice as an educator, but if the situation is confused, sometimes it pays to do something temporary. It may be money down the drain, but sometimes it's better than doing something the town really doesn't want to do," Hart said.

Hart also said he thought it would take a long time before the state would give a definite answer on whether it would fund the other three projects.

"It took a year to get an answer on whether we would fund the middle school," Hart said.

Cost estimates withheld

Lee advised to close outlying schools

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — Pittsfield architect John H. Fisher told school officials here last night that they should discontinue classes in the town's four outlying elementary schools, use Central School to house students in kindergarten through Grade 4 and build a new school on Maple Street for students in Grades 5 through 8.

But he asked members of the School Committee and the School Building Commission to keep secret for several weeks the cost figures he has computed for carrying out his recommendations.

'Ball-parkish'

Calling the figures "ball-parkish" because we don't have educational specifications for the building and refurbishing project. Fisher said this morning that he wouldn't release them for another month to six weeks.

The recommendations, given to a joint session of the two school groups, followed the presentation of Fisher's final report of a survey of current conditions in Lee school buildings.

Ordered by the school groups last fall, Fisher's report outlines, in a stack of papers nearly an inch thick, areas of the schools labeled "good," "satisfactory" and "unsatisfactory."

Compiled by Fisher and two associates during extensive examinations of each building, the report includes a survey of existing conditions, a summary of deficiencies, recommendations for improvement and costs of proposed remedies.

Costs included in the portion of the report made public, however, cover only renovations and refurbishments to existing schools necessary to bring them up to current safety standards. No figures are included for new construction.

New services omitted

The renovations proposed would, in many cases, not bring the schools up to current educational standards, according to Fisher, because the buildings themselves are not large enough to provide many of the new services required in new buildings.

Fisher found three of the four outlying schools to be in substantial disrepair, and estimated that it would cost $70,000 to bring them up to "any kind of standards."

A fourth outlying classroom, located in the South Lee fire station, needs only additional illumination to bring it to proper standards.

Central School's Hyde and center wings are in good condition, the report says, but would require renovations costing approximately $120,000 to bring them to proper standards.

That figure does not include the cost of breaking open new corridors between the two wings, a move Fisher says should be taken to provide acceptable access between them.

Although he said that repair of the condemned junior high wing of Central School would be unwise, he said that the first and second floors and the roof of the 57-year-old former high school could be replaced from $25,000 to $30,000.

Such a move would only continue the use of classrooms that are already substandard in size, however, Fisher said.

Renovation costs

Should the groups decide against construction of a new middle school, Fisher said, the cost of renovating Central and the outlying schools would be more than $600,000.

Figures comprising that plan include the removal of the junior high wing and the construction of 14,000 square feet of new classroom space to replace it, Fisher said.

Alfred R. Turner, chairman of the School Building Commission, said that the two school groups will hold a public hearing next Wednesday at 7:30 at the Central School auditorium to explain details of Fisher's report.

Copies of the report are being placed in the town library, town office and school offices so that residents may consult them.

Ralph E. Brown

Architect John H. Fisher: "Build a new school."

State Bookmobile

Thursday	
10:45	New Boston Library
12:00	Sandisfield, Klingler home
2:30	Mill River Library
Monday	
10:15	East Lee School
10:45	Stockbridge Library
11:30	South Lee, Firehouse School
1:45	Tyringham Library
Tuesday	
10:00	Lee, Szewczak home
11:15	East Lee, Tucker home
1:15	Otis Poultry Farm
2:00	Otis Library
Wednesday	
10:45	Florida Library
12:30	Drury Post Office
2:30	Clarksburg Library

Lee parents petition for alternative to double sessions at Central School

LEE — A group of parents here has begun to circulate petitions in the town asking an alternative to double sessions for Central School students and the rectification of what they say are safety hazards in the schools.

The parents, led by Terry Godwin of Devon Road, presented some of their petitions to the Selectmen Monday night and the School Committee last night.

"If we keep pointing up the safety factors wrong in the schools, maybe the people in the town will start to listen and realize that things have to be done," Mrs. Godwin said last night.

Mrs. Godwin also said last night she thought she got a better reception from the School Committee than the Selectmen. "I was disappointed with the reaction of the Selectmen. They nodded and told me I was in the wrong place," she said.

The petition asks six things:

—The end of double sessions for the town's kindergarten through 8th grade pupils. "The children's education is suffering under double sessions and after two or three years, the harm will be irreparable," the petitions say.

—The demolition of the southern wing of the Central School and the agreement that no new structure be placed there. The petitions ask that the area be returned to recreational use. "The children now have less than one-fourth the amount of play space recommended by the state," the petitions say.

—The construction of a fire exit in the west or outer wall of the Central School lunchroom. The parents fear that the children would not be able to quickly leave the room if there was a fire.

—That the library in the Hyde wing of the school be moved elsewhere. The petitions charge that is is presently built against fire regulations.

—The second floor of the Central School be closed until fire escapes are built.

—That a fence be built around the steep ravine behind the East Lee school. The petitions say the road should be closed off if the children continue to play in the area.

Mrs. Godwin said she had collected 53 signatures in the first day-and-a-half of the effort.

6/24/74

Double sessions okayed by state for Lee schools

LEE — The state Board of Education yesterday approved a six-month waiver that will permit the School Committee here to schedule double sessions this fall for Grades 5-8.

Taken at a board meeting held yesterday in Pittsfield, the vote authorizes the waiving of state regulations governing the length of school days and the school year.

The waiver goes into effect Sept. 1, and can be renewed following its Feb. 1 expiration providing the town has taken some positive action to solve its school problems by then.

The need for double sessions could be eliminated, however, by a plan to repair the condemned junior high wing of Central School that received initial approval Monday night.

That measure, which involves erecting a new roof and wall supports at the wing, goes before town meeting representatives for action tomorrow night.

Pittsfield architect John H. Fisher, who presented the plan to the Selectmen and members of the Finance and School committees and the School Building Commission on Monday, said the repairs would cost approximately $46,000.

7/9/70

Contains 327 Signatures

Petition Seeks School Referendum

LEE — Mrs. John R. Carroll of Pease Terrace submitted to the Selectmen last night a petition with 327 signatures requesting a referendum on the middle school issue which was defeated at the representative town meeting June 29.

Under Section 32 of Chapter 665 of the act establishing representative town government in Lee, a citizen may require a referendum by submitting a petition with 30 signatures from each of the six districts within 10 days after the representative town meeting. The Selectmen are obliged to announce within seven days a date during which the polls will be open for voting on the issue raised in the petition. The date must be within 14 days of the day on which the Selectmen announce the date of the meeting.

Switched to Hannon

School Building Committee Chairman John J. Loughlin appeared before the Selectmen shortly after Mrs. Carroll submitted the petition and requested that the issue be referred to the town counsel for a ruling on "the propriety of the petition." Loughlin said that "these people (who obtained signatures for the petition) are assuming the duties of the Lee School Building Committee" and questioned the legality of their action.

Loughlin said he had not spoken with the town counsel prior to his request.

Chairman of the Selectmen Andre W. Jaouen telephoned James E. Hannon, town counsel, while Loughlin was still present, and arranged a meeting Saturday of the Selectmen and Hannon to discuss the matter.

Jaouen Sees Affront

Jaouen termed the petition "an affront to the representatives," adding that he thought the representatives had performed well at the special town meeting.

Mrs. Carroll has maintained in the past that asserting one's right under the representative form of government tends to strengthen this form rather than undermine it. She has contended that a democracy is dependent upon an informed electorate and that the process of holding a referendum will acquaint citizens with their rights under representative town government.

There were indications prior to the June 29 town meeting that there would be a referendum on the issue, regardless of the outcome at that time. One member of the School Committee indicated in early June that he intended to petition for a referendum in the event that the middle school was approved by the representatives.

Ralph Conroy

OPPONENT of regionalization, George F. Dillman, Otis School Committee chairman, speaks at presentation of the proposed Lee-Lenox-Tyringham regional school district at the Otis School. Otis will not vote on the issue.

3-9-72

Opposing Sides in Regional School Dispute Eschew Arguing Over Dillman Charges

By RALPH CONROY

OTIS — Last night's presentation of the proposed Lee-Lenox-Tyringham school district failed to become the philosophical shoot-out that many expected it would be.

The meeting was quiet, with only about 35 people attending. George F. Dillman, chairman of the Otis School Committee and an outspoken critic of regionalization, has been buying advertising space in The Eagle to criticize the current regional proposal. The ads contend that School Supt. Maurice J. Boulanger of Lee and Supt. Raymond L. Trabold of Lenox and other school officials, are misleading the voters of Lee, Lenox and Tyringham about the legal obligations of the state to reimburse the towns for school construction costs whether the construction is for new regional schools or for local schools.

Neither Dillman nor the school officials mentioned his advertisement, although all were present.

However, in the question period which followed the somewhat abbreviated presentation by the regional planning committee, Dillman questioned the thinking involved in the state's picking up 65 per cent of the interest and principal of a regional school.

Dillman said it was all taxpayers' money that had been sent to Boston and which was now being given back. He cautioned the assembly not to be "kidded" into thinking that the money was not theirs (the taxpayers) to begin with.

Answering Dillman, Marcel C. Brunell of Lee, member of the Regional Planning Board, said: "I agree with you George, that we send money to Boston and then fight to get it back . . . but it behooves us to get back as much as possible or the pie will be divided among the others."

Brunell added that in his opinion the three towns would never get a better buy for a school.

"I hope Lee doesn't make the same mistake it did during the 1930s when it could have received its sewer lines through the Work Projects Administration (WPA) for $150,000, but turned down the offer only to pay $6 million later," Brunell said.

Dillman also questioned whether the state Department of Education would continue to increase pressures on regional districts to expand, which, he said, seems to be a national trend. He said further that under regionalization, money going back to towns goes to many towns that do not need it, but which get it because they conform to the state Department of Education's wishes and enter into regional school districts.

Children in Otis in kindergarten to Grade 8 are educated at the Otis School. The town sends 49 students on a tuition basis to Lee High School.

The Regional Planning Board said it had incorporated a projected enrollment figure for Otis in the regional plans. Except for ae Dillman exchange, the meet-ng was devoted mostly to a re-eat of the regional presentation iven at earlier meetings.

Last night's informational meeting at the Otis School was sponsored by the Otis Kiwanis Club. Otis will not vote in the balloting for the proposed region which will take place simultaneously in the towns of Lee, Lenox and Tyringham March 17.

Eagle Mar 11, 72

Letters to the Editor

Questions from Otis on regionalization

To the Editor of THE EAGLE:—

I read Mr. McBrian's letter of March 4 commenting on my challenge of Feb. 24 regarding the proposed school region between Lee, Lenox and Tyringham.

He says, "The proposition to be voted on is the consolidation of three school districts and the subsequent formation of one school committee to operate that one district."

Let me ask him:

Have all voters seen the *full* legal agreement on which they are going to vote? Is it available to anyone?

If, once the region is formed, won't the towns lose practically entire control and responsibility for their school systems?

If, once the region is formed, won't each town lose control of practically two-thirds of its town budget and taxes?

If each regional school committeeman will no longer be elected by his own town alone, but by the voters of all the towns in the agreement?

Mr. McBrian and I agree that on March 17 the towns are not going to vote on any specific plan or appropriation. In that case, why is there so much talk about plans, costs and tax impact?

Does Mr. McBrian realize that Otis is in the Superintendency Union No. 29 with Lee and Tyringham, and has the right to say what it thinks about something that affects it?

Has he been following the tax situation in other towns that have already regionalized? I am sure that other people have, and are flipping their wigs.

Does he know that the regional planning board is presenting regionalization to the voters because the state Department of Education has threatened the Lee, Lenox and Tyringham school committees with illegal statements about withholding state aid if the voters don't accept regionalization?

Does he know that it is still possible in our democracy for the school committees to fight against illegal acts of the Department of Education?

Does he know that other towns have successfully fought these illegal acts?

Does he think that a bigger school district is necessarily better? If so, Boston must be the best and Gosnold the worst, because of their size. Under this thinking, there will never be any hope for Lee, Lenox and Tyringham.

My suggestion to Mr. McBrian is to read the papers more carefully, and see what is happening in other communities regarding regionalizaton. Next, he should question people in these communities. Let him try Great Barrington, Stockbridge, Dalton, Becket, Blandford. If he happens to wear a wig, he should hold on to it!

And now, Mr. McBrian, as you say in your letter, to your telephone!

GEORGE F. DILLMAN

Otis

Additional letters are printed on the page opposite.—Ed.

The Berkshire Courier, Thursday, November 13, 1975 17

Harris Photo

William Noonan was one of many residents at a public hearing in Lee Monday night to voice complaints against the odor allegedly eminating from the Grelock and Columbia paper mills. Seated to Noonan's left is Board of Health Chairman Dr. Charles W. Stratton. (Story on page 1).

RECEIVING PLEAS to solve the odor problem that has been permeating Lee since early June are Schweitzer officials, from left, Richard C. Krueger, assistant manager of the Lee mills, Milton Gordon, manager of Schweitzer mills nationwide, and William Hemings, manager of the local mill's engineering department.

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8 —The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, Nov. 11, 1975

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

TELLING OFFICIALS of the Peter J. Schweitzer Division of the Kimberly-Clark Corp. that odors from their Lee mills are offensive is Mrs. Catherine Connolly of Columbia Street (standing). Mrs. Connolly spoke at a public hearing attended by about 35 townspeople and officials of the corporation last night.

DISCUSSING THE ODOR from the effluent of Schweitzer's secondary treatment plant is Selectman Joseph J. Castronova, in middle holding container. Selectman Chairman Edward M. Murray, at right, offers facial reaction that the effluent does not have a pleasant smell. At left is Selectmen's secretary Betty Larrivee.

Eagle 12/10/74

Slack economy to close Lee mills during holidays

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — In moves expected to affect more than 300 hourly workers, officials of two paper-manufacturing firms here said this morning that portions of their plants will shut down for 10 days during Christmas and New Year's holidays.

And one official, forecasting gloomy conditions in the industry that could extend well beyond the holidays, said that overtime is expected to be substantially reduced during the next several months.

A spokesman for Westfield River Paper Co. in East Lee, where 40 employes returned yesterday from a 1½-week-long shutdown, said that no further shutdowns were forecast there for the holiday period.

James Scarafoni, personnel administrator for Mead Corp.'s technical-papers division, said that the shutdown will hit all of the firm's approximately 250 hourly paid workers here.

Scarafoni said that both the Laurel and Willow paper mills will stop operating for the full 10-day period from Dec. 23 through Jan. 1. The firm's Morart printing plant will be closed for the same period, with the exception of Dec. 26 and 27, he added.

Frederick C. Hartwell, general manager for the four mills here operated by the Peter J. Schweitzer division, Kimberly-Clark Corp., said that although final plans won't be completed until this afternoon, an estimated 80 of a total of 485 papermakers will be affected when machines producing electrical-grade papers are shut down for the same 10-day period.

Although Hartwell said that the holiday shutdown would not extend to other manufacturing operations, he said that "we may reach the point where we will ask some salaried people to take vacations" during that period.

Such a move would eliminate the need to hire temporary help later in the year when vacations normally are taken, he said.

Pay arrangements vary

Hartwell and Scarafoni said that pay arrangements for the shutdown period would vary. Generally, however, workers would be paid for holidays occurring during the period — four holidays at Mead and 2 at Schweitzer — and could take vacation time to account for the remaining days.

Both officials said that the bulk of office staffs would be working during the shutdown. Scarafoni said that no office personnel at Mead would be sent home.

Neither firm envisions layoffs or shutdowns after the holidays, Hartwell said.

"I am quite negative about projections for the next several months on all product lines except cigarette-1 type papers," he said.

"I envision probably going to reduced machine time on an intermittent basis for the next several months, although we will try to maintain the 40-hour week for the immediate future.

Overtime reductions

"There will be some overtime reductions associated with these operations," Hartwell added, explaining that instances of 50-hour weeks for some employes would be cut to 44- and 40-hour weeks.

Hartwell said that he did not know when the reductions would be instituted. "We're working on a month-by-month basis, but our inventories are very high."

Mead officials earlier this fall cut the work week throughout the plant from six to five days, and both firms have laid off employes to accommodate declining orders.

Scarafoni said that without the shutdown, the plants would have closed Dec. 24, 25, 30 and Jan. 1 for normal company holidays.

The decision to extend the period was prompted by "general economic conditions," he said. "I'm sure that if we were bombarded with orders we'd be operating, but that's not happening," he added.

Hartwell said that the Schweitzer plants would normally close Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

Westfield plant manager Josiah F. Willey said that his mill, which produces glassine paper, closed Nov. 26 "because we had no orders" for products. The mill reopened Dec. 9.

10—The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, Oct. 7, 1975

Lee tax rate down but tax bills to rise

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — The average homeowner here this year will pay between $40 and $140 more in real estate taxes than he or she did last year, Assessor John E. Loring reported to the Selectmen last night.

Loring said that although the tax rate for the town dropped to $40.50 per $1,000 of assessed value from $43 last year, all properties in the town were revalued upward this year, resulting in the increase.

"The rate went down but the valuations went up, so people will actually be paying more," Loring said.

If valuations had remained the same, the tax rate would have been $49, an increase of $6, Loring said. He cited a spending increase of $313,000 as the reason for the hike.

The town's two major new expenditures this year have been $186,000 for the state-mandated Chapter 766 special education program ($3 on the tax rate) and $100,000 for the construction of a Summer Street sewer($2 on the tax rate).

The town has received only $11,000 in reimbursements from the state for the Chapter 766 program. Under a complicated formula, the state is supposed to pay about half of the cost of special education students.

"We have been told the state this year is reimbursing regional school districts only for Chapter 766 expenditures," Loring said.

Of the $40.50, $22.46 is for the cost of the town's schools and the Lee-Otis-Tyringham superintendency union and $18.04 is for the general costs of town government.

Soccer-field bids exceed Lee's estimate

1-15-75

Layoffs at mills now include salaried workers

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — Thirteen salaried employes in operations and staff positions at Kimberly-Clark Corp.'s Peter J. Schweitzer division here, and an additional seven hourly workers will be laid off indefinitely during the next three to four weeks, general manager Frederick C. Hartwell said this morning.

The salaried cutback, which is the first major action to hit those employes since demand for products began to sag last fall, is occurring "to adjust the work force in accordance with the reduction in total operating hours" at the firm's four mills here, Hartwell said.

Boosted to 60

The hourly layoffs, which boost to 60 the number of blue-collar workers sent home for an indefinite period since fall, come as a result of reduced operating time on one paper machine.

Hartwell said the white-collar reduction would take place through "retirement, quits and layoffs," but would not specify the number of employes in each category.

Five salaried employes left at the beginning of this week, he said; the remainder will depart "in the next three to four weeks."

Hartwell said the salaried jobs were being cut from both mill operations positions and from the division staff, which serves Schweitzer mills in New York and New Jersey in addition to those here.

Before the layoffs, operations departments at the mills here included 115 salaried employes. The division staff of 83 brought the total number of salaried employes working here to 198, a figure that has remained roughly constant for the past two years, Hartwell said.

Blue-collar layoffs, which now total 22 since production resumed two weeks ago following a 10-day holiday shutdown, drop the hourly work force to 425, or 60 below the total of 485 employed before the firm began to feel economic declines.

Other area firms

Layoffs — both blue- and white-collar — have already hit other area firms this year as well. General Electric Co. in Pittsfield last week announced furloughs of 30 salaried workers; Rising Paper Co. in Housatonic on Friday sent 62 hourly workers home for 10 days and seven to nine salaried workers there have been laid off indefinitely.

Mead Corp. in South Lee has not announced any new layoffs at its two paper mills and printing plant, but has cut its workweek from five to four days at the mills, the second one-day cutback in recent months.

By the end of the year, Mead officials had laid off 42 to 85 printers at the Morart printing plant, but production there currently remains on a five-day schedule.

Westfield River Paper Co. in East Lee returned its 40-man work force to production lines Monday after a one-week shutdown, but manager Josiah F. Willey said today he is not optimistic about continued steady operation.

"We've got enough orders to keep us running this week and possibly next, but we're not certain about what's in store after that, Willey said.

Mead joins project to develop laser for newspaper composition

12/28/74

LEE — Mead Corp., whose technical - papers division operates two paper mills and a printing plant here, has joined a Virginia - based newspaper chain to develop a completely - automated system of newspaper composition.

But a spokesman at the paper company's Dayton, Ohio, headquarters said yesterday that the move would not involve Mead operations here at all. Officials at the South Lee plant could not be reached for comment.

The project, which will be assembled by Mead Technology Laboratories and Media General, Inc., of Richmond, Va., is designed to convert raw text, photographs and advertising copy into full-page newspaper format ready to be made into plates for printing presses.

The system, its sponsors say, will eliminate all manual steps in newspaper composition.

* * * *

The heart of the system is a laser-beam device that is able to produce halftone dots in newspaper photographs without using a conventional halftone screen. The dots, which can be seen when a photograph is closely examined, enable pictures to be reproduced with a printing press.

Because the laser can be programmed to produce halftone dots, Mead scientists say it can be programmed to produce other kinds of dots, or bits of information, that can be stored on magnetic tape.

The input portion of the composer uses existing optical - character - recognition and cathode - ray terminal systems, similar to those being introduced at some newspapers, to store text in a computer.

An additional optical - scanning device employs the laser to convert pictures and graphics into similar computer - storage bits.

The output function of the stystem uses the laser to spit out those bits of information onto a piece of photographic film the size of a newspaper page. Mead spokesmen say that an entire page of copy, photographs and graphics can be produced in three minutes.

* * * *

Reduced to basic operations, present computerized - composition systems produce copy in one long paper roll of single columns of type. The roll is cut into smaller pieces, then pasted on a dummy page. That dummy is photographed; a printing plate is made from the resulting negative.

The Mead system, however, eliminates the need to cut and paste copy onto the page dummy. The laser moves horizontally across the page-sized piece of film, creating an entire page of type, rather than a single column.

Arrangement of text and photographs on the page is done electronically — not manually — through another cathode - ray tube, similar in appearance to a television screen.

By turning a few knobs, a newspaper editor can design his page on the screen, then direct the computer to project type and pictures across the full page according to the final design.

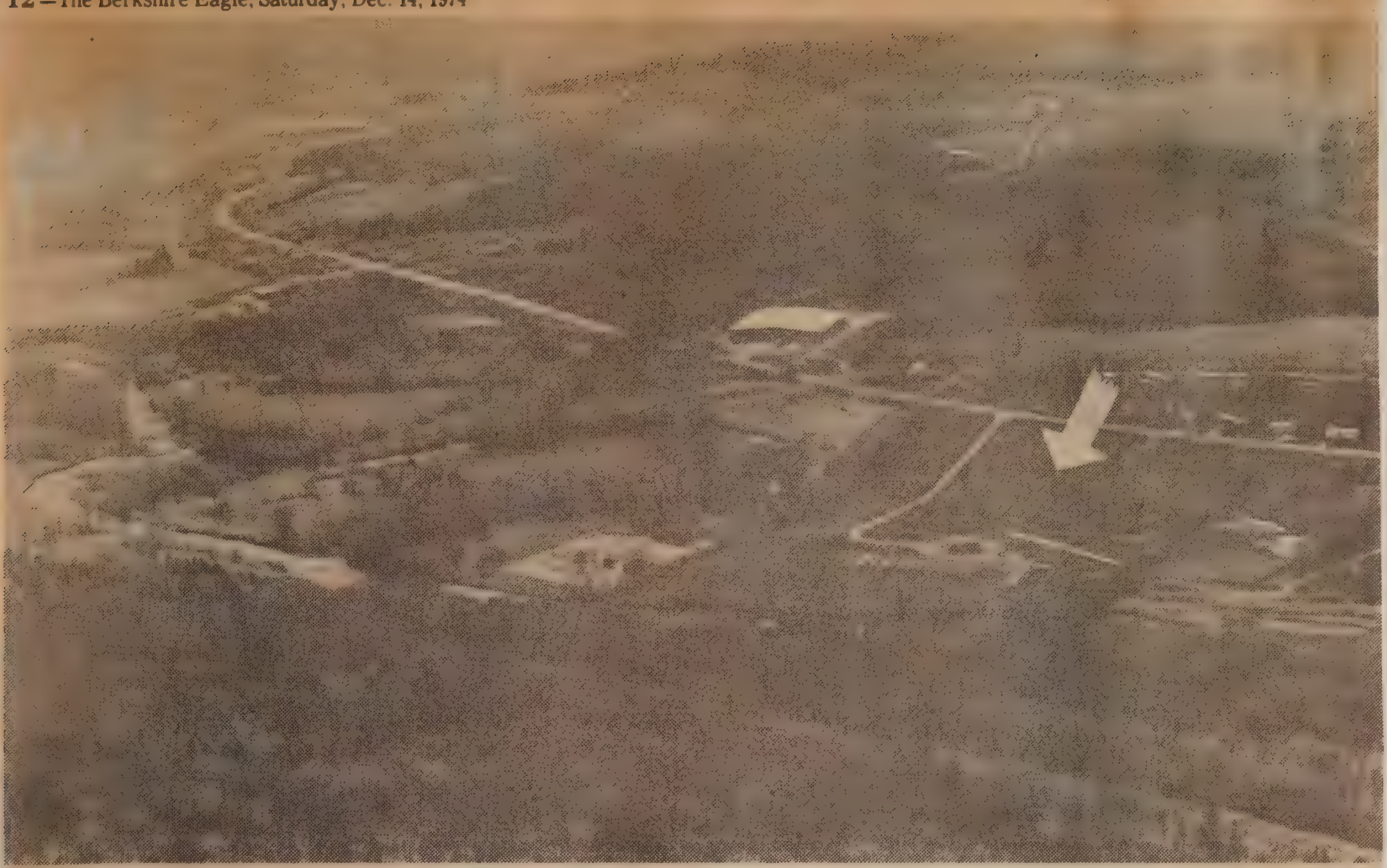
* * * *

A Mead laboratories spokesman said yesterday that two identical composers will be developed during the next 18 months. One will stay at the lab to be used as a sample; the other will be installed at Media General's Richmond Times - Dispatch in September 1976.

The Virginia chain operates daily newspapers in Winston-Salem, N.C., and Tampa, Fla., in addition to Richmond.

Mead officials say the system will lower composition cost "substantially," increase flexibility to alter pages for late-breaking news and speed production of page proofs for advertisers.

The composition system "eventually" will be combined with a plateless printing system developed at the laboratories, a laboratory spokesman said.



Warren Fowle

LEE SITE for ice-skating rink proposed by state is indicated by arrow in this aerial view looking northwest. Running across photo, listed from the bottom, are electric power line, Housatonic River and Route 102. Between rink site and the river is Lee's sewage-treatment plant. To left of rink site is state Department of Public Works (DPW) storage site, for which town required hearing under wetlands act before allowing DPW to fill area. Across Route 102 is Kaufman Bros. warehouse and toy store (with white roof). Around bend of Route 102 at upper left is Morart Printing plant of Mead Corp.

Ice rink seen boosting Lee economy

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — This town's Christmas present from the state, a $1.2 million indoor ice rink that is expected to draw skaters from throughout Western Massachusetts and parts of Eastern New York, should give a significant boost to economic life here, Selectman Martin H. Deely said Thursday.

But town-meeting representatives will have to approve the donation of eight acres of town-owned land to the state and appropriate funds to cover installation costs of sewer and water service before construction of the 30,000 - square - foot, state-funded facility can begin.

* * * *

Faced with declining orders at paper mills here that have idled workers and dampened holiday spirits, announcements that the rink will be built here "comes at a perfect time," Deely said.

"The immediate impact, and the nicest one, is that there will be some new jobs in the town," he said. State officials expect that, when fully staffed, the rink will employ 18 part- and full-time persons.

"And we will make our position very clear to the state that we want to see local people hired to fill those positions," Deely added.

Construction of the rink, expected to be completed by September 1976, will be supervised by the state Department of Public Works but will be contracted to private bidders.

Local construction firms could bid on the major contract and on subcontracts and could be awarded the job, Deely said.

"And simply having the rink here is bound to generate additional activity. People will be driving here from Springfield and Troy, N.Y., in addition to riding the proposed public transit buses here from Pittsfield and other towns," he said.

* * * *

Town action donating the land and raising the funds could come at a special town meeting early next year or wait until the regular session in May, he said, depending upon when state officials want title to the property transferred.

Although no cost estimates for sewer and water lines have been developed, Deely said the expense would be minimal.

"The sewage treatment plant is immediately behind the site, and there is a 6-inch water main running right by the property," he said. "All we would need to do would be to tie into those lines."

Enabling legislation authorizing the construction of state skating rinks, passed during the early 1960s, requires that the town in which the rink is to be located provide land, sewer and water for the facility.

The 8-acre tract is a portion of 18 acres purchased by the town more than 20 years ago for construction of the sewage plant. Built in 1968, that facility now occupies five acres. Another five acres is being retained for its expansion.

Town officials bought the land from the Pleasure Park Association, a stockholders' group that operated a horse-racing track on the property from 1869 until the 1920s. The track and a grandstand were torn down after the track closed.

Lee Selected For State Skating Rink

LEE — The Commissioner of the state Department of Natural Resources announced late yesterday morning that a 30,000 square foot indoor skating facility will be constructed off Route 102. Commissioner Arthur Brownell said he had picked the eight acre site in front of the town's sewage treatment plant over the proposed site at Monument Mountain Regional High School because the Lee site is: more in the center of the higher population area; near the turnpike; in an area that would not be disrupted by the construction of the facility.

Brownell said the Great Barrington site was good but that parking in the school's parking lot would have been affected by the construction and "the school needs the parking." He estimated that the project would be just out to bid early next summer and that the 100 by 300 foot facility would be ready to open in the fall of 1976.

The facility will be built by the state Department of Public Works which is responsible for building all the state's skating facilities. The basic design of the facility will be similar to those of other state funded skating facilities with minor changes to allow it to better fit the site.

Brownell said the actual construction costs of the facility might total $1.4 million instead of the $1.2 million originally budgeted. He cited inflation as the reason for the higher cost.

Once completed the Department of Natural Resources will pay for maintainnig and operating the facility. There will be nominal fees charged the public for its use.

The site of the facility is between the Department of Public Works salt storage shed and Eichelser's Nursery. The site at one time was the location of Pleasant Park, a race track that closed in the 1920's.

Selectman Martin H. Deely who remembers going to the circus at the site each year as a child was pleased with the

Continued on Page 17

Lenardson Photo

Mr. and Mrs. Hatch, at work in a room of their home on Buck's Lane, Stockbridge, following the announcement that they will donate 75 acres of land to the Berkshire County Land Trust and Conservation Fund.

75 Stockbridge Acres Given To Land Trust

STOCKBRIDGE — John Davis Hatch and his wife, Olivia Stokes Hatch, of Buck's Lane, have announced the gift of 75 acres of land to the Berkshire County Land Trust and Conservation Fund.

The deed to the property, situated off Buck's Lane in Interlaken and including land on West Stockbridge Mountain, should be conveyed to the Trust early next year, according to George Wislocki, director of the land trust.

Wislocki termed the gift "extremely important" because it joins mountain ridge land donated earlier by Mrs. C.D. Jackson with the five acre parcel that Hatch gave the trust in December, 1971. That gift of

century.

Hatch and his wife will continue to own about 50 acres of land between the deeded area and Route 183. That land includes their home, which Hatch said it is possible to claim was standing in 1700.

Hatch said the land and house were on a corner of the old Killian Van Rensaler Dutch Grant dating back to 1629 and encompassing part of present Stockbridge.

Restrictions in the deed are expected to be the same as those listed in previous gifts to the land trust, according to Hatch and Wislocki. these restrictions include a ban on motorized vehicles, dumping, building, camping and outdoor

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Skating Rink

Continued from Page 1

selection. "You can't get any ice time in the Berkshires," he said, adding "in the long run, it will increase interest in ice skating, figure skating as well as hockey."

State Senator Alan D. Sisitsky (D-Springfield) whose district includes seven of the smaller South Berkshire towns said the area was "very fortunate" to get the rink. He predicted there will probably be no additional skating rinks constructed by the state for several years" if ever again because of the state's poor fiscal condition.

Commenting on whether he considered the distance of the rink too far from the towns in his district Sisitsky said "no - a great distance is not involved."

Sisitsky claimed credit for inserting the skating rink into the budget. He said "this skating rink will be my lasting legacy as a state senator to the people of this region."

State Senator John Fitzpatrick (R-Stockbridge) and State Representative Sidney Q. Curtiss (R-Sheffield) were not available for comment on the selection yesterday afternoon.

Harris Photo

What is missing in this picture? A $1.4 million, 30,000 square foot skating rink, that's what. The facility is scheduled to be completed in 1976 on this now-desolate eight-acre parcel in front of the Lee sewage treatment plant off Route 102.

Lee Selectmen To Meet With Dohoney And Scolforo To Discuss Ice Skating Rink

LEE - The Selectmen will meet with Town Counsel James P. Dohoney and Public Works Superintendent J. Peter Scolforo Monday to discuss negotiations with the state concerning the state's proposed ice-skating rink off Route 102. Their deliberations are likely to culminate in a special town meeting early next year, according to Selectman Martin Seely.

Following the hoopla of last week's announcement by the state Department of Natural Resources that the eight-acre site in front of the town's sewage treatment plant off Route 102 was chosen for the proposed rink, a letter from state DNR Commissioner Arthur Brownell arrived in the Selectmen's office. The letter listed several working conditions between the town and the state, and a formal agreement was attached.

The first step, according to Brownell's letter, is the DNR's contracting agent to approve the site for engineering purposes. The agreement further stipulates that the town handle all temporary installations necessary for construction, including water and sewage, natural gas, electrical power, drainage connection, and storm drains. The town must also agree to pay "for all fees, associated with the construction of the skating rink, required of town regulatory agencies."

Deely said any costs to the town will be roughly determined at Monday's meeting, and that, in any event, a special town meeting will have to be held on the matter, if only to transfer title of the land from the town to the state.

Doumet, Lanesboro.

that office, and won.

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5/14/75 Eagle

Lenox-rink acquisition favored

Legislative unit suggests state buy Wilde complex

By A. A. Michelson

The legislature's Committee on Natural Resources, after a public hearing yesterday at the Statehouse, reported out favorably a bill which authorizes the state Department of Natural Resources to purchase the Wilde Sports Center and 40 acres of abutting land at the Bordentown/Lenox School in Lenox.

The bill will come into the House this week or early next week and will be immediately referred to the House Ways and Means Committee, which must determine whether the funds should be made available. Beyond that, there is another hurdle in the office of Gov. Michael S. Dukakis, whose administration is seriously questioning all new programs.

Payment limited

The bill, filed by Rep. Dennis J. Duffin, D-Lenox, and Sen. John H. Fitzpatrick, R-Stockbridge, limits any state payment for the sports center to $375,000. The center includes an indoor skating rink, a gymnasium and indoor tennis courts, ice-making machinery and 40 acres of land. It also authorizes the state to spend an additional $275,000 for repairs to the building, an access road to the center and general development of the land.

"What we're really thinking about," said Joseph H. Brown, acting state commissioner of natural resources, "is a potentially great recreational park right in the middle of town. In addition to the sports center building itself, the land this bill would let us acquire has several outdoor tennis courts and a pond."

Last year the then commissioner of natural resources, Arthur H. Brownell, was offered the facility but he turned it down, preferring, he said, to build a new $1.1 million indoor rink in Lee. The legislature last year passed a capital outlay budget including $1.1 million for such a rink in Southern Berkshire, but the Dukakis administration has declared a moratorium on such projects for at least two years because of the state's mounting budget deficit.

Discouraged investors

According to Sen. Fitzpatrick, talk of a public rink in Lee discouraged private investors who had shown an interest in buying the Lenox skating facility, "and if the state doesn't move in on this now, the area will be left with no facility at all because we are sitting up there while the Lenox facility deteriorates."

Brown said his department was offered the facility at the same price as it was offered to private interests. He said he was approached several weeks ago by Gustave L. Nordstrom, business manager of the defunct Bordentown/Lenox School, after negotiations with private buyers broke down.

Brown told the committee that a cursory survey by a member of his staff indicated that the ice-making equipment at least meets the standard for the state's indoor rinks, and that substantial work has to be done on the building.

"But the fix-up figures in this bill," he said, "are just guesswork. Before the department would make any decision, we would hire consultants to advise us as to the worth of the property and as to actual work that has to be done."

Would be 'bargain'

From what he has seen of the building — not recently — and what he has been told by his aides, Brown thinks it would be a "bargain."

Rep. Steve Chmura, D-Ludlow, House chairman of the committee, agreed. He said the state would be getting an excellent rink plus valuable acreage for about half of what i planned to spend just for a ne rink in Lee. The bill provides that the acquisition of Wilde Sports Center be financed through the $1.1 million appropriated last year for the Lee rink.

Rep. Duffin said he was a supporter of the Lee rink last year and he still thinks that it would be in the public interest.

"But if the Lee rink is out," he said, "and the Lenox facility is disintegrating for lack of maintenance, we will be left without any facility in Southern Berkshire."

The First Agricultural National Bank of Pittsfield holds a mortgage on the Wilde Sports Center and has initiated foreclosure proceedings.

Brown was supposed to be in the Berkshires this week to look at the Lenox School facility and other proposed sites but he canceled the trip.

Sisitsky plans no attack on skating rink proposal

BOSTON — State Sen. Alan D. Sisitsky, D-Springfield, denied published reports in today's Berkshire Courier that he will attempt to block passage of a bill authorizing the state to purchase the Wilde Sports Center in Lenox.

"I'm going to support the bill. I have no objections to it," Sisitsky said this morning.

Sisitsky was one of the prime movers behind a bill last year to have the state build a $1.2 million ice skating rink in Lee. He expressed bitter disappointment last month when the state said it would not finance the rink because of the current budget crisis.

After the state said it would not fund the Lee rink, Rep. Dennis J. Duffin, D-Lenox, and Sen. John H. Fitzpatrick, R-Stockbridge, filed a bill asking $650,000 to purchase and renovate the Wilde Center.

The legislature's Committee on Natural Resources reported the bill out favorably on Tuesday.

"I'm going to support the bill, I have no objections to it," Sisitsky said this morning. "I'm still going to work for a Lee rink but I'm not going to block the bill (filed by Duffin and Fitzpatrick)."

Sisitsky said that following a meeting with Gov. Michael S. Dukakis two weeks ago, he concluded the Lee rink would not be funded within the next year.

The next step for the Duffin-Fitzpatrick bill is the House Ways and Means Committee. If the bill receives a favorable report there, it goes to the floor of the house.

The bill authorizes $375,000 for the purchase of an indoor skating rink, a gymnasium, ice-making machinery and 40 acres of land and an additional $275,000 for repairs to the building, construction of an access road and the general development of the land.

The bill has received the tentative support of the commissioner of the state Department of Natural Resources, Joseph H. Brown Jr.

Eagle 5/15/75

1-31-75

1/31/75 E

Lee officials scoff at idea of change in ice-rink location

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — Officials here have scoffed at proposals by Lenox and Pittsfield officials that a state-financed skating rink slated to be built here be shifted elsewhere.

Pittsfield City Councilman Robert F. Jakubowicz said yesterday that the $1.2 million facility should be built in Pittsfield. He said skating is popular in the city and Pittsfield's only rink, at the Boys' Club, is overcrowded.

John J. Pignatelli, chairman of Lenox Selectmen, said yesterday that he thought the Wilde Sports Center in Lenox could house the new rink.

Lee officials rejected the suggestions outright. "Obviously the rink should stay in Lee," Selectman Martin H. Deely said. "The rink is designed to be a regional facility located in Lee and that's the way the legislature passed it. I can't believe they have any intention of changing the location."

Selectman Edward F. Murray said his first reaction to the Jakubowicz and Pignatelli statements was a surprise.

"I'm surprised that we heard from them at this late date. There were certainly no comments from them when the original site selection process was going on."

State Sen. John H. Fitzpatrick, whose district includes Lee, Lenox and Pittsfield, said he thought the rink should stay in Lee.

Sensitive situation

"We're in a sensitive situation now with the governor's budget cuts," he said. "If we don't go through with this plan we are liable to end up with nothing at all. If we quibble too much among ourselves the rink is likely to end up in Chelsea or Revere." (Both towns are suburbs of Boston).

Fitzpatrick pointed out that the state's takeover of the Wilde Center in Lenox would not ease the area's shortage of available facilities.

State Sen. Alan D. Sisitsky said in a statement that "The rink was designated by the legislature for southern Berkshire. Any action at this time by local officials will simply endanger the construction of any rink."

One of three Democratic candidates for Selectman, said he thought the rink should be located in Lenox.

"I think Pignatelli has a smart idea," James E. Navin said. "There's no need for Lee to go out and spend money. It's got enough money problems. If the people of Lee want to skate or watch a game they can go up to Lenox. We have enough traffic now. What will we have after that rink goes through?"

The state legislature has already allocated money for a rink in Lee. A site change now would require further legislation.

Under the bill, Lee is to donate eight acres of land on the Rte. 102 site in South Lee. The town also is expected to assume installation costs for sewer and water service of the 30,000 square-foot facility. The cost to the town has been estimated at $10,108.

3/20/74

Lee property leased to motorcycle club to protect it from vandalism, owner says

LEE — Two Pittsfield men, who say that a house and 8 acres they own here have been repeatedly vandalized, told the Selectmen last night that they have leased it to members of the Warlocks motorcycle club.

"They're going to live in the house and protect the property for us," said Richard A. Lucido of 847 Williams St., who with his father, Orlando, owns the land on Woodlawn Road near the western boundary of October Mountain state forest

Lucido said that only one or two members of the Pittsfield-based club chapter would be living in the house at a time, although more would be there for "club meetings and parties."

* * * *

"The extent and the amount of additional people there I couldn't tell you," Lucido said.

"I can't see that you'll have any trouble from us so long as there is peace and quiet there," said Selectman Martin H. Deely.

"But if we're going to have motorcycle wars up there, you can forget it right now," Deely said.

Lucido, an independent operating engineer for construction projects, said that he and his father had received the property three years ago in exchange for dismantling equipment installed there by General Electric Co. of Pittsfield. The equipment had been used for an ultra-high-voltage project.

He said that vandals had damaged the property while it was owned by General Electric, and that the destruction had continued after he and his father took control.

* * * *

Lucido said that someone recently had built a campfire on the floor of the house, which he described as a large one-story building.

Julio Lucido told the Selectmen that he and his colleagues planned no trouble at the club's new location. Julio Lucido, according to Richard Lucido, is "maximum leader" of the area Warlocks group now headquartered on Dewey Avenue in Pittsfield.

"But we'll take care of our own property," he said.

Four members of the Pittsfield chapter were injured in a West Stockbridge affair two years ago when they were attacked by some 30 members of what police said at the time were members of a rival club from Holyoke.

No violence involving members of the club has erupted locally since, that affair, however

Richard Lucido said that he and his father had no specific plans for the property, although they expect eventually to obtain an adjoining 9-acre parcel from GE.

Lucido said that his father had plans at one time to construct an undercover car-storage facility there, but that new zoning now appeared to prevent it.

Lucido said that the Warlocks were paying for a year-long lease. He declined to disclose the terms of the lease.

"They've assured us that there will be no problems there at all," Lucido said. "If there are, then they're out — that's it," he said.

* * * *

In other business last night, the Selectmen:

—Took under advisement from Berkshire Bank & Trust Co. and First Agricultural National Bank bids for computerized payroll and accounts-receivable data-processing. Berkshire bid $5,090 for a 12-month period.

—Approved the town's application for eligibility for federally subsidized flood insurance

—Received Traffic Commission suggestions for the repair and replacement of several no-parking signs

—Received a letter from state Department of Natural Resources chief Arthur W Brownell saying that members of his staff would be in the area "within the next month" to examine potential sites for a Southern Berkshire state-funded skating rink

—Told Robert Collins of Fairview Street that they didn't interpret the dog-restraint ordinance as requiring that dogs be physically secured so long as they are "under the control of the owner."

10-22-7[illegible]

Builder to conform to Lee ruling

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — The Conservation Commission has told Pittsfield builder Norman R. March that landfill operations creating level ground northeast of St. James Avenue cannot extend more than 100 feet east of the street — 50 feet less than March had sought.

As a result, commission member Ronald R. Smith said yesterday, March will have to move portions of the earth and rock fill already deposited on the site near the west bank of the Housatonic River.

March, who this morning confirmed that portions of filled level ground did extend beyond the 100-foot line, said that he would "abide by the ruling we got from the Conservation Commission, naturally.

"Our whole intent there is to eliminate hazards and straighten up the area so that it is esthetically more pleasant," March said.

* * *

The decision, contained in an order of conditions sent to the contractor on Friday, also stipulates that a graded slope, beginning at the east edge of the level-fill area, can be no more than 50 feet wide.

Smith said that March's notice of intent to fill a wetland, filed with the commission Sept. 10, sought permission to level the land with fill to a line 150 feet east of the street and to extend the 50-foot slope from that line.

The edge of the level fill-line in some places now extends beyond the 100-foot limit established by the order, Smith said. In other places, the fill only extends for 50 feet, he added.

As a consequence, Smith said, March will have to move the fill now beyond the 100-foot limit to areas behind it.

* * *

The order of conditions was drafted following a public hearing on March's notice of intent held Sept. 30. That hearing, however, didn't occur until after March had completed his filling operations.

Trucks carrying material excavated from a Massachusetts Turnpike Authority construction project began depositing the fill in August, and continued to do so until the excavations ended last month.

Filling operations began before a formal notice was delivered to the Conservation Commission, March said at the hearing, because he "didn't have time to notify" them before starting.

Commission members issued a cease-and-desist order calling for a halt to the filling, but local police refused to serve it. Town Counsel James P. Dohoney subsequently sent the order to March by registered mail, but March later told the conservation group that he never received it.

* * *

At the hearing, members of the Planning Board urged the conservation group to order that the landfill be removed and that the town take legal action against March for filling the area without a permit.

But, according to Smith, commission members decided not to recommend legal action. "We'll be satisfied if he meets the requirements of the order of conditions," Smith said Monday.

* * *

The order also requires that March:

—Extend existing culverts or leave open ditches, to facilitate drainage of surface water. If filling occurs beyond existing culverts, culverts must be carried to the base of the eastern slope.

—Finish off the graded slope with three inches of topsoil and seed it.

—Grant easements to the town for any corrective action needed on existing drainage culverts.

March, who has built four single- and two-family houses on adjacent Prospect Street and has two more nearing completion, said this morning that he has no immediate plans to construct houses on the filled land. But he did say that the area could be used for building lots at a future date.

Con't from p 172

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

READING HIS LETTER criticizing the Lee School Committee's handling of the Larry Porter tenure case is Central School principal Raymond B. Kavey. On left is Joseph Savery, committee member. Pictured to the rear of the two is Mrs. Larry Porter.

Lee school principals over board rehiring

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — The two Central School administrators who had originally recommended that music teacher Larry Porter not be rehired or granted tenure read a letter to the School Committee last night criticizing its decision to rehire Porter.

The letter provoked angry responses from several members of the committee and the pleas of others that because the decision to rehire Porter was final, it be dropped from further discussion.

The administrators Principal Raymond B. Kavey, and Vice principal Stephen Cozzaglio, said last night they wrote their letter to the committee to clarify their responsibilities in light of the reversal of their recommendation.

Kavey and Cozzaglio called the Porter decision a "Pyrrhic victory because of its overall effect upon the Lee public schools and other school systems and a triumph only over a principle that we have been charged with by the Lee School Committee."

Kavey said last night, after reading the letter, "We have submitted a plan for teacher assignments for next year. Do we proceed, or wait for people who don't like their assignments to protest. We want some direction."

* * * *

Henry G. Greiner, chairman of the committee, told the administrators their responsibilities were not affected by the Porter decision.

"Your duties remain the same. If there was a change we'd tell you. You are running the Central School."

While the administrators' letter did not specifically charge that the committee had vacillated under public pressure, two committee members angrily said the letter implied vacillation.

"I feel this letter is offensive to me personally and the committee as a whole and the parents of 1,600 young

Oak n' Spruce on market for $1.43 million

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — Oak n' Spruce owner Frank J. Prinz, who 27 years ago brought an old church-farm school here and turned it into a 65-room, year-round resort, said yesterday that he would consider turning the 440-acre recreation area over to a small group of investors while remaining as its general manager.

"It would depend upon the proposal," Prinz said, "and nothing is firmed up. But if the price is right I'm not going to say no."

Wall Street Journal ad

The resort owner's comments came during a reporter's inquiry that was prompted by an advertisement in the Dec. 13 edition of the Wall Street Journal offering the South Lee complex for $1.43 million.

12/14/74

Ralph E. Brown

Frank J. Prinz

The ad, similar to one that appeared in the Journal in July, was placed by the New York office of the United Farm Agency, a nationwide group of sales agents.

Queried last summer following the appearance of the original advertisement, Prinz flatly denied at that time that the resort was for sale.

Yesterday, he expressed surprise that the advertisement again appeared.

"That description of the property was given to the agency 18 months ago, when we began looking for investors," he said.

He did not, however, deny that the resort was for sale.

After the lengthy description, which included the "owner's 3,000-square-foot, 5-bedroom, 3-bath home," the text of the advertisement reports that the "owner is retiring after 25 years of successful operation.

"Own one of New England's finest resorts for $1,430,000," it concludes.

Although he conceded that "everything is for sale—at the right price," Prinz said that rather than sell the resort outright, he was searching for investors.

Prinz wants to add a "resort condominium" to the operation, and wants "seed money" to develop it. As he describes the concept, persons purchasing the condominium units would live in them for portions of the year and rent them for the remainder.

Although Prinz said he has had discussions with several groups of potential investors, the 56-year-old resort owner said he expects "to be around here for a while.

"We've added a $100,000 indoor swimming pool this year and our bookings already received for next summer make it look as though it will be the best summer we've had," he said. "Does that look like I'm ready to leave?"

The resort is at the foot of Beartown Mountain and south of Route 102 and the Housatonic River where they pass through the village of South Lee.

1945 Lee Sportsmen Gather for Banquet

There were 300 at the annual social event in Lee last night. Among those present were: Francis Shields, president, William Butler, treasurer; Franklin Kelly, vice-president; James E. Agnew, director of fish and game and Warren A. Turner, secretary.

[illegible]

Ralph E. Brown

LEE APARTMENT PLANS of builders Robert H. Garrity (right, with hand extended) and Edward R. Slosek (standing left) were presented at public hearing last night. Selectman Martin H. Deely (seated left) said that permits would not be granted or denied on basis of what he termed a "popularity contest."

Lee residents hear housing plans

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — Permits for two proposed East Street apartment projects will be granted or denied on the basis of compliance with the town zoning bylaw, not according to a "popularity contest," Selectman Martin H. Deely told a crowded, heated public hearing last night.

Coming near the end of the second of two hearings on applications filed by Lee builders Robert H. Garrity and Edward R. Slosek and by Westfield developer John S. Booke, Deely's remark followed a declaration by Selectmen Chairman John J. Wheeler that "the taxpayers of the town of Lee are not going to have these apartments shoved down their throats."

Show of hands

The exchange was preceded by a call from Harold E. Soules of 4 Martin Ave. for a show of hands of those in the audience who favored Booke's Hartwood Farms, a 36-unit complex planned for the southwest corner of Martin Avenue and East Street. Few of the 50 residents and town officials in the audience indicated their support.

Debate about the Booke complex, which in an informal session six weeks ago centered on who would live in the federally subsidized project, last night focused on the location of the entrance to the development.

Booke's early plans called for an entrance from East Street, but engineering problems coupled with subdivision-control regulations forced designers to shift it to Martin Avenue.

Nine 4-unit buildings

Booke said last night that his engineers weren't able to place the nine four-unit buildings on 1-acre lots and have the entrance go onto East Street.

Residents there said last night that increased traffic coming from the apartments would turn Martin Avenue and neighboring streets into heavily traveled ways that would endanger children playing and walking to school and to a nearby baseball diamond.

Booke said this morning that if the Selectmen tell him they will grant building permits only if the entrance is moved and if it is possible from an engineering and zoning standpoint to do so he would return the entrance to East Street.

Concern was also voiced about the ability of the town's sewage disposal plant to handle Booke's 36 units. Although town Department of Public Works (DPW) Supt. J. Peter Scolforo and plant operator Kenneth J. LaBier had earlier told Booke that the plant's capacity was sufficient to handle the increased load, DPW Chairman Donald J. Mooney said the figures given Booke were incorrect and should be re-examined.

Garrity-Slosek project

Debate about the Garrity-Slosek project, an addition of 28 units to 12 already under construction at the northwest corner of East Street and Reservoir Road, centered on the desirability of adhering to subdivision control regulations.

Saying pointedly that the project was financed through private sources, rather than the federal subsidy being sought by Booke, Garrity told the Selectmen that they planned to meet the regulations, even though Town Counsel Henry M. Donahoe had ruled that their project needn't be considered a subdivision.

Planning Board Chairmen Jon H. Larson, urging the Selectmen to apply the subdivision controls to both the Garrity-Slosek project and the Booke one, said the application would protect the town in later years should the builders decide to subdivide the projects and sell the buildings individually.

Larson asked that builders include on their final plans a written statement agreeing to meet the control regulations. The Selectmen gave no indication that they would go along with Larson's request, and although all builders made oral commitments to abide by the controls, they did not say they would include the written statements.

187

Developers file applications for 64 East St. apartments

LEE — In the first major flurry of private development since a moratorium on apartment construction was invoked here nearly two years ago, three builders last night filed applications with the Selectmen for permits to construct 64 apartments on East Street.

Filed by Westfield developer John S. Booke and by the Lee construction firm headed by Robert H. Garrity and Edward R. Slosek, the applications estimate the cost of the two projects to total $640,000.

The Selectmen scheduled public hearings on the two applications for May 29. If the permits are granted, the builders expect construction on the two sites to begin in June

The larger project, Booke's "Hartwood Farms," will place 36 two-bedroom units in nine buildings on 10 acres at the southwest corner of Martin and East streets. The project meets the zoning density requirements of four units per acre included in current and proposed zoning bylaws.

Project under way

The Garrity-Slosek project, 28 two-bedroom units in seven buildings at the intersection of East Street and Reservoir Road, would be an addition to the three buildings the partners currently have under construction there.

Slightly more than a mile north of the Booke project, the Garrity-Slosek "October Mountain Colonial Villiage" now contains 12 units, but would be increased to 40 with the additional buildings.

The Lee builders received permits for the 12 units last winter, and expect to have them completed "within a month," Slosek said this morning. He said that he expected construction on the additional 28 units to begin "almost immediately" after the new permits are granted.

Booke broached plans for his project in March, when he met privately with representatives of the Planning Board and the Selectmen. Shortly after that meeting, he said that increased construction costs could force him to abandon the project, and build single-family homes there instead.

But design revisions, coupled with a potential for federally subsidized financing for the project revived the plans, which Booke has said could put a total of 120 units on 30 acres there.

Three phases

Those 120 units will be constructed in three one-year phases, Booke said earlier, with 40 units being constructed each year. If the first phase meets substantial criticism from residents, Booke has said, he will not build the other two.

Booke's application last night for 36 units represents a change from his original plan for 40. That plan depended upon receiving permission to cluster the buildings on half of the 10-acre site.

Town Counsel Henry M. Donahoe told Booke last night, however, that such clustering would violate zoning provisions permitting construction of only one building on each acre.

Booke told Selectmen last night that he wants to begin construction by June 15.

Murray: our complete confidence

Ralph E Brown

Soules: conflict of interest

Ethics squabble erupts over Lee housing project

Petitioners claim conflict of interest on part of town counsel

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — East Street and Martin Avenue residents who are opposed to a 36-unit apartment complex proposed for 10 acres of land near their houses last night handed the Selectmen petitions bearing the signatures of 421 persons who want the project killed.

A spokesman for the 25-member delegation also charged that Town Counsel Henry M. Donahoe had a conflict of interest in the project, and asked that an "alternative legal opinion" be sought.

The group, part of which had gathered on the steps of the Town Hall more than 10 minutes before the Selectmen's weekly meeting began at 7:30, came to the meeting assuming that a vote on building permits sought by John S. Booke, the Westfield developer planning the project, would be taken.

* * * *

"We hope that the Selectmen won't award that contract tonight or in the near future," said Harold E. Soules of 4 Martin Ave., a staunch opponent of Booke's "Hartwood Farms."

"I feel that 99 per cent of the taxpayers in the town of Lee don't want this," Soules added. "I feel the taxpayers should have a say in how this town is run.

"There's no problem in getting these petitions. If you want more, we'll get more," Soules said.

Soules also charged that Donahoe has a conflict of interest because he is acting as the attorney for Frank W. Carrington, who is selling the land to Booke, and because Donahoe's brother, realtor Charles J. Donahoe, is Booke's local agent.

Donahoe two weeks ago told the Planning Board that he didn't think Booke was required to observe town subdivision-control regulations because he wasn't dividing the 10-acre site at the corner of East Street and Martin Avenue into smaller lots.

* * * *

Both Selectmen Martin H. Deely and Edward F. Murray, acting Selectmen chairman in the absence of John J. Wheeler, reacted sharply to the charge against Donahoe.

"I've never known him to do a single thing that was unethical," Deely said. "He has our complete confidence."

Saying he would "welcome" additional advice, Deely asked Soules if his group had sought another legal opinion to counter Donahoe's. Soules said it hadn't.

Deely later said that it would be possible for the Selectmen to seek another opinion, although he did not indicate that they would do so.

Deely asked Soules if the residents who signed the petitions intended only to halt the Booke project or also want the ban extended to the 28 units proposed by Lee builders Robert H. Garrity and Edward R. Slosek.

Garrity and Slosek have applied for permits to add seven four-unit buildings to the three they currently have under construction at the northwest corner of East Street and Reservoir Road. They filed the application for the addition at the same time Booke asked for his permits.

Soules said the petitions were originally aimed at Booke but subsequently were extended to the Garrity-Slosek project.

The petition asks the Selectmen to delay any decision on the applications until Garrity and Slosek fill the 12 units they are now constructing. Following that, it asks that a study be made by the town Department of Public Works and the School Department to assess the impact of the projects.

7-22-75

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

PLEADING THE CASE of the Planning Board for further review of town zoning decisions is Lee board chairman Francis D. Foley Jr., right. Listening are Selectmen Martin H. Deely, center, and Edward F. Murray. The Planning Board in the future will receive a copy of all permits.

Lee officials in accord on permits

LEE — The town's building inspector will give a copy of all zoning and building permits to the Planning Board for its ongoing evaluation of the effectiveness of the town's bylaws.

That was the settlement worked out last night between the Planning Board, the Selectmen and Edward M. Briggs, the building inspector.

Francis D. Foley Jr., chairman of the Planning Board, said he felt the board has not been adequately consulted on zoning decisions.

"The Planning Board over the last year and a half has not been able to see all the permits. The Planning Board feels that in not being able to see the results of how the bylaws are working, the board is not able to make recommendations and changes in the laws as necessary," Foley said.

Because of what it considered the Selectmen's and building inspector's refusal to consult them over zoning questions, the Planning Board in May reduced its meeting schedule from weekly to twice a month.

"The reason we now meet every 14 days is that we're not being asked to do anything, we're not seeing the permits. Even when we do meet, we're not asked to review the permits," board member Dana P. LaDuke said.

The Planning Board in recent years has come under attack from local builders and residents who claim it is obstructing and delaying the processing of applications. The board has repeatedly insisted it is merely doing its job and enforcing the town's zoning bylaws.

Foley said the board wanted to see all the permits so it could "know how effective and useful the town's bylaws are and to make sure they are being enforced."

Following last night's meeting the board said it would continue to meet twice a month. The decision to give the board duplicates of all permits and applications means the board will not be involved in the actual granting of the permits but will have the power of review of all decisions.

Under state law, the job of issuing the permits is vested in the town building inspector.

In two building-permit decisions last night, in which the Planning Board was consulted, two residents of conservation-residential zones were told they would have to get variances from Zoning Board of Appeals before adding to their homes.

The two applicants were Ann Guest of Goose Pond and Robert F. Chaney of Pine Street.

Both want to add bedrooms to their homes, but lack the three acres necessary to allow building on the lots under the bylaws that went into effect a year ago. Both indicated they would go before the appeals board.

3/21/74

Angle parking permanent on Lee's Main Street

LEE — Thirty-degree angle parking along the east side of Main Street, begun in November on a 30-day trial and in force since then, won formal adoption from the Selectmen Monday night.

Acting on a petition formally presented a week ago by Joseph Liss of Devon Road, Selectmen Edward F. Murray and John J. Wheeler voted to make the 30-degree angle system permanent.

Selectmen chairman Martin H. Deely dissented, saying later that he believed parallel parking to be safer, and conducive to a better traffic flow through the business district.

Lee experimented with parallel parking on the east side of Main Street last fall, but adopted the 30-degree angle arrangement in November after merchants complained that customers found that parallel parking left too few parking places and was more difficult to get in and out of than angle-parking slots. Parallel parking was complicated by the fact that the sidewalk along the East side of Main Street is so much higher than street level.

In other business Monday, the Selectmen:

—Agreed to place an article on the town meeting warrant asking for $7,000 to purchase an emergency generator for the Town Hall, and to update wiring there;

—Decided to send congratulations to the Lenox Selectmen and the Lenox High School basketball team for the team's victory in the state Division 3 tournament.

7-2-75 Eagle

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

EXPLAINING WHY a variance should be granted for two Davis Street lots he owns is Frank P. Consolati (right). Consolati appeared before the Lee Zoning Board of Appeals last night. Listening are, from right, Pauline Pollard, Chairman Henry J. Salice and William Manion. The lots are slated to be used for high school house-building project.

196 county

Harris Photo

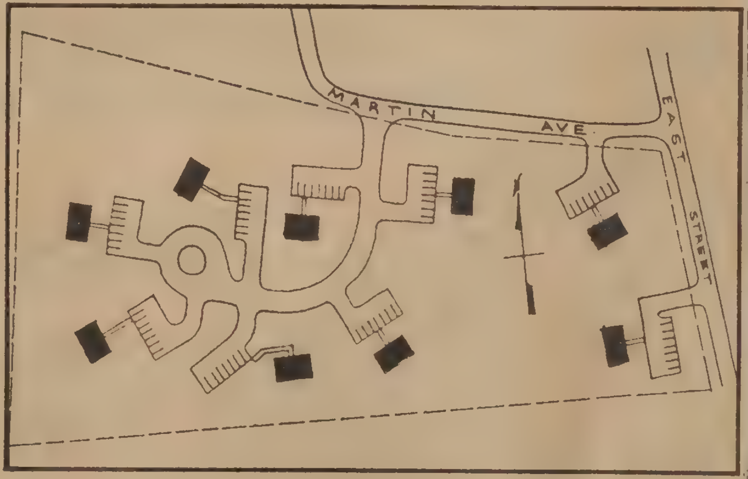
Lee District 4 Representative Frank P. Consolati began that town's annual town meeting by angrily criticizing the repair job on Central School conducted last summer. Consolati's objections resulted in the representatives voting not to accept the annual report of the School Committee. Pictured at far right is Central School vice-principal Stephen A. Cozzaglio.

4/21/74

Ralph E. Brown

APARTMENT BUILDER John S. Booke (above, far left) presented plans last night to Lee Selectmen (from left) Edward F. Murray, John J. Wheeler and Martin H. Deely, for proposed 36-unit project on East Street. Plan of project (below) shows nine four-unit buildings on 10 acres, with main entrance opening on Martin Street.

Booke seeks permit for 36 apartments



By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — Westfield developer John S. Booke's plan to cluster 40 apartments on half of his 10-acre site on East Street would violate town bylaw provisions that permit construction of only one four-unit building on each acre, Town Counsel Henry M. Donahoe told Booke and members of the Planning Board last night.

Donahoe said that a second plan, which contains only 36 units, would not have to meet town subdivision control regulations.

Booke shortly thereafter filed an application with the Selectmen for permits to construct the 36 units on the site, using a plan that drops one building from the 40-unit design and spreads the remaining nine throughout the 10 acres.

* * * *

The new plan, however, places the main entrance to the project on Martin Street rather than East Street, a move that has caused the Selectmen to worry about traffic flow there.

The Planning Board told Booke that it would like to have him seek a variance from the one-building-per-acre ruling, however, because the board thinks the 40-unit plan "to be a superior use of the land," according to board chairman Jon H.Larson.

Larson said his group would recommend to the Zoning Board of Appeals that Booke be granted a variance from the requirement because the change would not increase apartment density, but result only in moving the position of the apartment buildings on the site.

Booke, however, saying that he doesn't want to wait the two months that the appeal process would take, told board members that he would adopt the 36-unit plan.

Larson also said that the board wanted the project to be subject to subdivision-control regulations to insure that roads and utility service lines there meet town requirements.

* * * *

Such a process would facilitate subdivision at a later date, should Booke decide to sell the buildings individually, Larson said.

Booke, however, said that he intends to meet the subdivision-control regulations, even if he is not required to do so.

Lee DPW superintendent outlines basic planning for dept. through 1995

Larry Burns

J. Peter Scolforo

LEE — J. Peter Scolforo, superintendent of the town Department of Public Works, last night outlined cost estimates for DPW projects through 1995, pointing out that there would be only one project in the next 25 years that would require a bond issue or an increase in water rates.

Scolforo told the governing commission of the DPW that it will "probably need to spend" $120,000 on water and sewer line replacements in the next 10 years. He said that from 1985 through 1995, the DPW will spend between $140,000 and $200,000 to eliminate all remaining water mains that are four inches or less in diameter.

He said replacements this year will be on Birch Street; in 1974, Pleasant Street and Tyringham Road; and 1975, Maple and Greylock streets. He said the priorities were determined by Tighe & Bond, engineering consultants of Holyoke, which does most of the DPW's engineering studies. The firm recommended replacement of the smaller lines because they cannot carry enough water to supply a fire hydrant, Scolforo said.

The only bond issue needed, he said, will be one for $350,000 for construction of a water line connecting Leahey Reservoir on Washington Mountain to a larger reservoir being built there with state and federal funds. Scolforo said the DPW will put off that project for several years, because Leahey Reservoir is currently providing the town with enough water. However, he noted that the consultants have advied that the greater supply will be needed within a few years and that the town should initiate the project soon to minimize construction costs, which increase around eight per cent a year.

Scolforo said water could be piped down from the higher reservoir into Leahey Reservoir from December through April, or at other times "in emergency situations."

Harold Soules, chairman of the DPW, said Lee might sell water to Lenox, if that town wants it, to defray cost of the pipeline. Lee already supplies Lenox Dale.

$4.54 million to be sought in Lee for town sewer-system expansion

5-21-75

LEE — Local taxpayers will be asked to spend about $4,537,000 to expand the sewer system and to serve South Lee.

The town's share is part of a $6,440,933 project that would increase by more than 300 the number of homes connected to the municipal sewer system.

The state's Water Resources Commission (WRC) has tentatively indicated it will provide $1,893,900 in federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) funds for the project.

While stressing the figures were still preliminary, Paul Kneuer, the chairman of the Board of the Department of Public Works (DPW), said the board would try to spread the expense over 20 years.

Kneuer admitted that the cost appeared staggering but said, "There is a great deal of federal money available now and it may not be there a few years from now, when economic times are better."

"We feel that we have to give the people a chance to decide whether they want to take advantage of the federal funding," he said.

Town meeting vote

Kneuer said the expansion proposal would be presented in three articles at a special town meeting in July. He said a public hearing would precede the town meeting.

The first article will ask $1,533,400 to pay the town's share of a $2,457,400 project in the center of town. The Water Resources Commission will pay the remaining $924,000, Kneuer said.

The second article will ask $1,429,930 to expand the sewer system in the Bradley Park, Summer Street and Theresa Terrace area. The WRC said it would provide no funds for that project.

The third article will ask $1,574,600 for a South Lee sewer system. The WRC has indicated it will provide an additional $969,000 for the project.

The town had originally asked the WRC for $1.5 million in EPA funds for the work to be done under the first two articles and $900,000 for the South Lee project.

No competition

However, the WRC indicated it would only fund 90 per cent of the cost of "collector" lines — lines which receive the flow of two separate lateral lines — and hence the $500,000 cut in the town's request.

Kneuer said he did not think the DPW's $4.5 million request would compete for town tax dollars with a $3.3 million request for a school - building program, which the School Committee has said it will propose this summer.

"Our proposal will not be in conflict with the school proposal," Kneuer said. "The federal money is available now and we simply feel that we have to get the proposals using that money before the voters. We know this is going to be a hard choice for the town, but we think it makes good sense to do the expansion project now."

7-16-75

Lee DPW to air plan for sewer work tonight

LEE — The Department of Public Works (DPW) board will present tonight its $6,494,525 sewer expansion project which, if approved, would place nearly the whole town on the municipal sewer system.

The hearing will begin at 7:30 at the high school cafetorium. The proposal will be formally voted on at a special town meeting on July 31.

Taxpayers will be asked to finance $4.85 million of the cost of the project. The remaining $1,644,525 will come from state and federal grants.

The town's Finance Committee approved only one section, totalling $734,100, of the entire proposal. The approved area includes the main trunk line from the sewer treatment plant across Marble Street following along the Willow Brook to the system installed by the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority. It will also serve part of Fairview Street.

Not bargain

The Finance Committee also recommended that Mountain View Terrace and Summer Street receive sewer lines.

"We are for sewers and we think the DPW did an excellent job in presenting the plan. But the uncertain economic situation and an uncertain solution to the school situation led us to feel we couldn't approve more," Beverly Y. Foley, chairman of the committee said today.

Speaking of the federal and state aid available to the town if the sewer expansion project is approved, Mrs. Foley said, "Something is not a bargain if you can't afford it."

The entire project would add an estimated 2,080 permanent residents and 385 industrial employes to the town's sewer system. That would leave only about 400 of the town's 6,400 residents without access to the town sewer system. About 65 per cent of the town (4,160 people) are now on the town sewer system.

Members of the DPW board said they are well aware of the economic climate. The board said in a statement issued last month but felt it should offer the proposals because of "the availability of federal and state aid in the amount of 90 per cent reimbursement for certain portions of the system."

Card of Thanks

We wish to express our most Sincere Appreciation and deepest gratitude to all who attended, or contributed to our recent 50th Anniversary Party at the East Lee Steak House. Roy and Candace Heath.

ANTICIPATI
YOUR
CLEANING
NEEDS . . .

We're goir
the last two

Berk Herald Aug 1973

LEE ART FESTIVAL — The Lee YMCA is sponsoring an Art in the Park Festival for area artists and craftsmen on summer weekends in the Lee Town Park. Among the attractions last Saturday were oils by Wallace G. Noel (seated) of the Otis Gallery, and handmade leather crafts (background) from Lee Leather.

Jonathan Lovell

$4.9 million to be sought in Lee for sewer expansion

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — Taxpayers here will be asked to finance $4.85 million of a $6,494,525 sewer expansion project which, if approved, would place virtually the entire town on the municipal sewer system.

A preliminary plan for the project, which includes a tentative $1,644,525 allocation from the state and federal governments, was presented last night at a meeting of the Department of Public Works (DPW).

If passed, the entire project would add an estimated 2,080 permanent residents and 385 industrial employes to the town's sewer system. That would leave only about 400 of the town's 6,400 residents without access to the town sewer system. About 65 per cent of the town (4,160 people) are now on the town sewer system.

A special town meeting in late July will be asked to act on the three articles which encompass the project, DPW chairman Paul R. Kneuer said last night. A public hearing has been tentatively scheduled for July 14.

If approved, the estimated first-year cost of the principal and interest of the bond that would finance the project is $568,000. The board estimated that the bond would be issued in July 1976, or January, 1977.

In a statement accompanying the 12-page proposal, the DPW board said it was offering the three articles now because of "the availability of federal and state aid in the amount of 90 per cent reimbursement for certain portions of the system."

The actual federal grant to the town totals $1.8 million, meaning $1,644,525 is reimbursable.

The funds recently became available when President Ford released more than $6 billion impounded by former President Nixon. The funds are being distributed nationally by the Environmental Protection Agency and, in the state, by the Water Resources Commission.

The federal and state funds are for "collector" lines — lines which get the flow of two separate lateral sewer lines.

The first article will be for sewers in all parts of the town, which the government has said it will help fund except for South Lee. That portion of the project will cost $2,524,525, of which the town will pay $1.6 million.

The second article is for the remaining sections of the town which the government has said it will not help pay for. That portion of the project will cost the town $1.5 million.

The third article is for the South Lee area. The total cost of that section of the project is $2.47 million. The town will pay $1.75 million.

More specifically, the $2,524,525 first article is broken into four parts.

The first part includes the west part of town from Stockbridge Road along Willow Brook to Devon Road and Spring and George streets. The roads covered are part of George Street, Devon Road from Stockbridge Road to West Road, part of Spring Street, Parkview and Mountainview terraces and part of West Park Street. The estimated cost of that section is $720,300, with the town paying $586,560.

The second part of the first article includes the main trunk line in the southern part of town from the sewage treatment plant across Marble Street and along the Willow Brook to the system installed by the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority. A main line is included to serve Fairview Street. The estimated cost of that section is $734,100, with the town paying $303,315.

The third section of the first article includes a line from the intersection of Housatonic and Fuller streets to Leonard Avenue in the east center part of town. The streets covered are part of Maple Street, part of Greylock Street and Leonard Avenue. The estimated cost of that section is $293,375, with the town paying $225,775.

The fourth section of the first article includes a main line from the Tyringham Road to about 400 feet east of the intersection of Maple Street and Cape Street following Route 20 on the south east side of town. The streets covered are Water Street, Chapel Street, part of Cape Street, Silver Street and part of Forest Street. The estimated cost of that section is $776,850 with the town paying $484,350.

The second article covers the areas and streets which the government said it would not help fund in a preliminary review of the town's master sewer plan. However, the board said the government decision would be reviewed upon the town's presentation of its final plan.

The board said it was presenting the $1.5 million second article to the town because of "the many requests we have received for sewer installation from all sections of the town, and we feel the town should vote on these now so that another application can be made to the Water Pollution Control Division for possible funding."

The streets covered in the second article are: in the northeast section of town, part of Bradley Street, part of Woodland Road, Washington Mountain Road, Sturgis Avenue, Stringer Avenue, Mill Street, Sunshine Avenue, part of Landers Road and part of Greylock Street.

In the western section of town, the streets covered are part of Stockbridge Road, part of Summer Street, part of Spring Street, part of Theresa Terrace, South Prospect Street, part of Prospect Street and part of Laurel Street.

In the southern part of town, the streets covered are part of Route 102, Pleasant Street and part of Marble Street.

In the east center part of town, part of Housatonic Street is covered.

In the southeastern section of town, Cone Avenue is covered under the second article.

The third article would cover the complete South Lee sewer system including gravity flow sewer lines, pump stations and force main lines. Its cost is $2.47 million with the town's share estimated at $1.75 million.

The streets covered in the third article are Route 102 and Pleasant, Main and Church streets, part of Fairview Street, Highfield Drive, Davis, Pine and Willow streets and part of Meadow Street.

The town's existing waste-water treatment plant along the Housatonic River on Route 102 is designed to handle one million gallons of sewage per day. The present daily flow is estimated at 460,000 gallons per day. If all three articles are approved the daily flow is expected to increase to 710,000 gallons per day, the DPW board said.

Kneuer said last night the DPW had not yet determined the long term cost of the project or the maintenance costs of the new system. He said that information would be available before the July 14 public hearing.

Lee sewer plan seen adding average of $10 to tax rate

7/17/75

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — The town's tax rate would be increased an average of $10 per $1,000 of assessed value per year for the next 20 years if a proposed $6,494,525 sewer expansion project is approved, town Department of Public Works officials said last night.

The information was announced at a public hearing on the project at which 50 persons grappled with the question of whether this town can afford to take advantage of a bargain in the current economic situation.

The project will cost taxpayers $4.85 million and is considered a bargain now because the state and federal governments have promised a minimum of $1,644,525 if the project is approved within the next year, town officials said.

The project will be voted on at a special town meeting July 31. About half of the town meeting representatives attended last night's hearing.

* * * *

About 98 per cent of the town would be on the municipal sewer system if the new project is approved. About 65 per cent of the town is now on the system.

The project will be presented in the form of six articles. The first article is for lines in all sections of town, except South Lee, which the government has said it would help fund. The total cost of that section is $2,524,525, of which the town would pay $1.6 million.

The second article is for the remaining sections of town which the government has said it would not help pay for. That portion of the project would cost the town $1.5 million.

The third article is for South Lee and would cost $2.47 million. The town would pay $1.75 million.

The fourth article will ask $155,000 for a sewer on Park View Terrace and Mountain View Terrace. There is no federal aid available for that project.

The fifth article will ask $65,000 for a sewer on Summer Street. There is no federal aid available for that project.

The sixth article will ask $10,000 for a study on the possibility of extending the municipal sewer system to the area around Laurel Lake.

The state and federal government has said it will fund only "collector" lines — lines which get the flow of two separate sewer lines.

* * * *

The town's Finance Committee voted unaniously to approve only one section of Article 1, the area along Marble Street, at a total cost of $734,100. The committee voted not to approve Articles 2 and 3, but did vote to approve Articles 4, 5, and 6.

Beverly Y. Foley, chairman of the Finance Committee, said, "Our feelings were colored not by the merit of the proposals, but by what they cost. With the present state of the economy and the uncertainty of what we will have to spend on the school, we were worried by the great impact the sewer proposal would have on the tax rate.

"It's a good idea, but we can't afford it now. We hope you won't fold up the plans and go away," Mrs. Foley said. She added she hoped the DPW would resubmit the plans when economic times were better.

Paul Kneuer, chairman of the DPW board, said he anticipated the plans would be resubmitted at a latter date. DPW officials have indicated the plans for sewer expansion would not change much over the next 20 years.

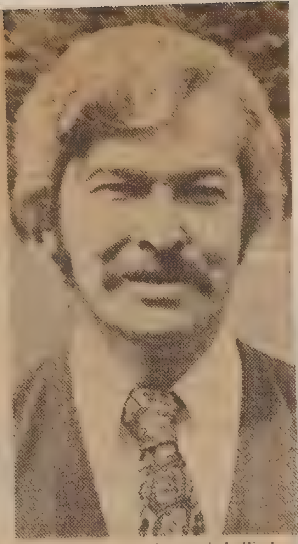
Kneuer indicated that the DPW's top priority was Article 1, because of the funding involved. He said Article 3 was the next priority item, but said federal funds would be available for South Lee longer than for the rest of the town because South Lee lies along the Housatonic River. He said the lowest priority was Article 2, because no governmental funding was involved.

Despite the economic times, Kneuer said the project was submitted now for four reasons:

"First, we are presenting the plans at this time because of the availability of funds; secondly because the depressed economic situation means bidding for the project will be intense and more competitive; thirdly, because materials are much cheaper now than they have been for several years, and fourthly, because at the current rate of inflation in this country, the same proposal will cost much more in the future."

Joseph J. Castronova
Selectman

William F. Derrick
Assessor



Benjamin L. Ginsberg

Charles J. Driscoll
Housing authority

North Adams bank promotes Lee man o vice president

LEE — Francis Bourquard of 186 Laurel St. has been promoted to vice president of the North Adams-Hoosac Savings Bank in North Adams. An employe of the bank for 11 years, he previously was an assistant vice president.

1-2-75

State to observe Rev. King Day

Massachusetts will observe a new legal holiday this year. It is Martin Luther King Jr. Day and it falls on Wednesday, Jan. 15.

It honors the Nobel Prize-winning black clergyman who was shot to death in Memphis, Tenn., five years ago.

All state and local government offices are closed on that holiday but business can operate as usual. It is a legal holiday on which Sunday laws do not apply. The holiday doesn't apply to federal agencies. Schools will be closed.

Eagle 6/20/74

Wheeler

William M. Wheeler, son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Wheeler, 52 Revere Pkwy., received a B.S. in pharmacy from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, Boston.

A graduate of Cranwell School, Lee, he was on the hockey team for four years and served as president of the student council. Wheeler is half-owner of the Lee Pharmacy.

18—The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, Jan. 14, 1975

Shorter term proposed for CATV franchise

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — Town officials and the manager of High Fidelity Cable Television gave strong indications last night that they would agree to chop 10 years from the length of a renewed franchise agreement for the firm to operate here.

The proposal to reduce the term of the license from 15 to five years came during a public hearing on the Great Barrington firm's request for re-certification of its existing agreements with area towns, ordered by the state Cable Antenna Television (CATV) Commission.

"I think a one-year term is too short, but I also think that a 15-year one is too long," said Selectmen Chairman John J. Wheeler.

"Too often the renewal process can be a pain in the neck," agreed Selectman Martin H. Deely. "But establishing a five-year license period would give us the chance to have you come back and listen to us on a reasonably frequent basis."

"I think five years is a reasonable period," replied High Fidelity manager John L. Diegel.

* * * *

Few residents attended the hearing, but several town officials asked Diegel and the High Fidelity attorney, Edwin E. Reder of Pittsfield, an assortment of questions about cable service here.

Both Diegel and Reder declared that no increase in monthly rates to subscribers could occur within the forseeable future.

"The current rate ($7 per month) is the highest permitted by existing statute," Reder said. "Increases cannot come without a change in legislation, and could not occur before a public hearing and a decision by licensing authorities."

Diegel said that customers whose service is interrupted for more than 24 consecutive hours will be entitled, under new CATV Commission regulations, to a pro-rata rebate for the period of interruption.

Answering a question from Planning Board member Francis D. Foley Jr., Diegel said that the firm was not obliged to provide local programming in towns where fewer than 3,500 residents subscribe to the service.

High Fidelity inaugurated local programming shortly after beginning operations in 1967, but discontinued it several years ago.

Diegel said that the largest group of residents served by the firm was in Great Barrington. But the 1,800 subscribers there falls almost halfway below the 3,500 level that requires local programming.

Diegel also explained that signal-reception problems prevented the firm from carrying Boston television stations, and that complaints about service telephoned to a recording device on weekends were picked up by service personnel during the weekends.

Officials here signed a 25-year agreement with High Fidelity in 1967, but were required to re-certify the franchise by state CATV regulations this year.

If the five-year license is instituted, it will have reduced the length of that initial agreement by 12 years.

The Selectmen said that the new agreement would be examined by Town Counsel James P. Dohoney before a decision is reached, a process that will probably take two to three weeks.

Ralph E. Brown

John L. Diegel, manager of High Fidelity Cable Television, briefs Lee Selectmen on the firm's operations. Selectman Edward F. Murray is at right.

K16

Berkshire Bank Lee Office Opens Monday

2/12

LEE — The Berkshire Bank & Trust Co. Lee branch office here will open Monday with ribbon-cutting ceremonies.

Cutting the ribbon will be Edward F. Murray, chairman of the Selectmen. Also on hand will be James R. Sloane, president of the bank.

The new branch is at the intersection of Park and Housatonic streets (Route 20).

Edmund Pelletier of Lee, vice president who has been in the personal credit department in Pittsfield, will be officer in charge of the Lee bank. Anthony A. Furlano of Pittsfield will be the Lee branch manager, reporting to Pelletier.

The lobby hours of the Lee office will be from 9 to 3 Monday to Friday and 6 to 8 Friday night. The drive-in window will be open 8:30 to 5 Monday to Thursday and 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Fridays.

The Berkshire Eagle,

Lee bank holds first art exhibit

Eagle 7-21-71

LEE — The artistic works of Suzanne Porges of West Stockbridge have been on display since Tuesday at the Lee National Bank. It is the first art exhibit in the history of the bank.

Ms. Porges's works range from oils to needlepoint. She is best known for her flower paintings, according to a press release from the bank.

Ms. Porges's work has been shown in New York, Paris Vienna, Tokyo, and locally at Orpheus Ascending and the Berkshire Garden Center, according the press release.

She has also been an art lecturer for the State Department and been sent overseas.

The exhibition has been arranged by John W. Plant, vice president and cashier of the bank

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Lee Savings Bank plans remodeling

7-2-75

LEE — The Lee Savings Bank will begin remodeling its offices this summer and complete the $260,000 project by the end of the year.

The remodeling, which was announced by Richard E Sitzer, bank president, will coordinate the building's interior with the Colonial design of the exterior. Wall murals behind the tellers' windows will depict scenes of early New England.

Sitzer said that the impetus for the remodeling program was the bank's growth since it moved into its present quarters 21 years ago. Sitzer said the bank's deposits have grown from $11.7 million to $40 million in 21 years.

That growth has led to increased activity, thus necessitating the remodeling, Sitzer said.

Among the major features of the remodeled bank will be a full-automatic teller which will provide 24-hour service. The teller will provide the services for several of the bank's accounts.

The Berkshire Eagle, Saturday, Aug. 11, 1973— 9

Lee man opens new center to service foreign cars

LEE — The expansion of Dave's Servicenter on West Park Street makes the business the largest independent foreign car repair shop in the area, according to its owner, David Dobson of Stockbridge Road.

Until two weeks ago, Dobson leased the service station on Housatonic Street, and fuel and automotive supplies were a major part of his operation. But now he has eliminated everything but the repair business and is attempting to corner the lion's share of foreign car work in the county.

Dobson has five full-time mechanics, counting himself, and a huge, double-port garage built by George Rached of Stockbridge. The shop is well stocked with parts, especially for Volkswagens, which account for 80 per cent of the business. The large parts inventory helps cut down on repair time by eliminating extra supply orders.

Plans to dabble

Two existing car wash units there will be kept in operation. Dobson has also been granted a used-car dealer's license and intends to "at least dabble" in that business.

A foreign car mechanic since 1955, Dobson went into business for himself at the Housatonic Street station in 1962 and purchased the West Park Street building from Nelson Tacy of Lenox in 1969. The building originally consisted of three car wash stalls, with a big lot in front and extra space in the rear. Dobson more than doubled the work space by adding an 80 by 30-foot shop at the back and an office at the side; the wall of one of the stalls was removed to make a driveway into the shop from the front.

There is plenty of room to conduct headlight tests for car inspections, and he has applied for a license to make the inspections.

Work guaranteed

Dobson said he started thinking about expanding after he realized that foreign cars were breaking down faster than the county's mechanics could fix them up.

Although he, like other shop owners, is seeking a large volume of business, he is also concerned that his men do the work well. With that in mind, he guarantees his work and parts, the length of the guarantee depending on the type of work done. He said his shop's good reputation has brought more customers in through "word-of-mouth" than advertising has.

Hours at the new Dave's Servicenter will be from 8 to 5 Monday through Saturday.

Lawrence Burns

GROWING DEMAND for service on imported cars inspired Dave Dobson of Lee to open a shop that will concentrate solely on servicing the foreign autos that are now a fixture on county roads.

The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, Sept. 11, 1973— 17

Framingham man buys Lee business

LEE — Aldo Delmolino of Stockbridge has sold his Ford dealership on Housatonic Street to William L. Caffrey of Framingham.

The dealership will be called Lee Ford, Inc. Delmolino and his brother, Alio, will continue to assist in the sales department.

"We intend to keep the organization about the same as it was," said Caffrey yesterday.

He comes to Lee after 14 years as sales manager for the former Butler Ford, Framingham Ford. Previous to that, he worked for 10 years at Corcoran Motor Sales, Wellesley.

Caffrey and his wife, Alberta, have seven children between the ages of 5 and 22. He said they are looking for a home in Lee or the surrounding area.

He said Milton North will remain as service manager of the dealership. Robert Burt will continue as parts department manager.

Delmolino began in the car business in 1944, when he operated Troy's Garage, West Stockbridge, for a year after the death of its owner, Garrett Troy.

Joy Allen

William L. Caffrey

In 1945, Delmolino purchased the company from Mrs. Troy and subsequently added the Lee business as a subdealership. It became a complete dealership around 1960. Delmolino ran both companies until 1963, when he sold Troy's Garage to Victor D'Aniello.

Delmolino is president of the Stockbridge-West Stockbridge Kiwanis Club and serves on the Stockbridge Water Commission.

He and his wife have four children, Anthony of Lee, Dante of Housatonic and the Misses Bettina and Marilucia Delmolino at home.

Ladies' Bible class to hear Mrs. Prause

LEE — Mrs. Henry Prause, wife of the pastor of the Northeast Baptist Church in Millerton, N.Y., will speak to women's Bible class of the Berkshire Hills Baptist Church tonight at 8.

The class will meet at the home of Mrs. Louise Fyfe at 55 Orlando Ave., Pittsfield.

3/7/74

Ralph E. Brown

PROPOSED CUTS in next year's school budget were outlined to Lee School Committee members last night by Supt. Maurice J. Boulanger (center), who said he thought the $1.9 million figure could be dropped by $135,000. Committeemen William F. Tyler Jr. at left and John J. Loughlin listened intently.

Near-final Lee school budget unveiled; hike of 20% seen over 1973 spending

By Ralph Brown

LEE — Emphasizing that the figures weren't final because salary negotiations with teachers hadn't been completed, School Supt. Maurice J. Boulanger presented a $1,944,217 fiscal 1975 budget to the School Committee last night, then proposed cuts totaling $135,000.

If those cuts are accepted, the resulting $1.8-million figure will represent a $315,000 increase — or approximately 20 per cent — over the calendar 1973 budget.

Comparisons are difficult to draw between proposed figures for fiscal 1975 and budgeted figures for fiscal 1974 because the 1975 budget will be the first one planned on a fiscal-year basis.

A state law that went into effect Jan. 1, 1973, ordered local government units to convert from calendar-year to fiscal-year budgeting.

Fixed costs

Most of the increases included in the fiscal 1975 budget consist of expenses that can't be avoided, Boulanger said. Rising costs for fuel, food and supplies, coupled with salary and maintenance expenses deferred from the 18-month 1973-74 budget, account for a large part of the hike.

Additionally, funds mandated by the state to support the new special-education program ordered under Chapter 766 of the General Laws, estimated to cost Lee somewhere between $40,000 and $60,000 for fiscal 1975, contribute significantly to the increase.

The largest single item pushing the proposed budget above earlier levels consists of $171,000 in teachers' summer salaries deferred, as the law permitted, from the 1973-'74 budget.

The figure represents salaries already earned by Lee teachers, but held in escrow for payment to them during summer months when schools are on vacation. To provide year-round income, teachers are allowed to take their earnings in 26 payments, rather than the 21 occurring during the normal school year.

Deferred payments

The largest cut that Boulanger proposed for the new budget — $110,000 in teachers' summer salaries — extends the deferring concept permitted by the state for the '73-'74 budget throughout the next two or three years.

The cut wouldn't affect the salaries themselves, or actual payment of them to teachers, but would allow the town to pay for them over a longer period of time.

Boulanger conceded that no current legislation or legal opinions suggested use of deferments for new budgets, but he said that Massachusetts school superintendents will seek authority to do so.

"I think it would be better to hurt a little bit two or three times than to hurt a great deal at once," Boulanger said, referring to the deferment proposal.

Boulanger also proposed cutting $19,000 from the planned special-education account, saying that information he had received indicated that the state would make more money available for start-up costs than it had originally specified.

Additionally, Boulanger suggested cutting $6,400 from proposed heating costs, saying he hoped that lessons in fuel conservation learned this year would permit fuel costs to drop below those originally planned for fiscal 1975.

Those costs were expected to rise to $60,800, up $43,700 from the calendar year 1973 budgeted figure of $17,100.

The committee added $1,350 in salaries to the summer session accounts, raising funds there to $7,350. The additional funds would provide no new teachers or classes for the program, but would simply meet salary increases already agreed upon.

Committee Chairman William F. Tyer Jr. said he would schedule a public hearing for the fiscal 1975 budget sometime in April and scheduled a final committee vote after that hearing.

Russell Stover Chocolates fresh weekly. Lee News Room.—Adv.

Eagle 1/27/7

Lee National Bank Appoints New Jersey Man Vice President

LEE — John W. Plant of Brick Town, N.J., is succeeding William F. Staples as vice president and cashier of the Lee National Bank.

The announcement came from bank president, H. George Wilde, after the annual meeting yesterday afternoon.

Bank President

Plant, 58, is leaving his position as president of Pineland State Bank in Brick Town to come to Lee National. Born in England, he began his banking career as a messenger with the National City Bank of New York after he had graduated from Flushing (N.Y.) High School. He is a former executive vice president of the Union National Bank & Trust in Huntington, Pa., and auditor of the Central National Bank in Yonkers, N.Y.

A graduate of the New York chapter of the American Institute of Bankers, Plant is a past president of the Woodbury Rotary Club, the Woodbury Chamber of Commerce and of the board of trustees of Wenonah Presbyterian Church. He has served as treasurer of Underwood Memorial Hospital of Woodbury and has been a member of the executive committee of the New Jersey Bankers Association.

Staples, 67, of 12 Navin Heights, came to the Lee bank in 1964 as vice president of new business and marketing. He later succeeded Edmund Hayes, who retired as cashier.

John W. Plant

Photos by Nick King

William F. Staples

Resources Rose $3 Million

In the more than six years that Staples has been with the bank, its resources have risen from $3.7 million to $6.7 million, according to recently published figures.

A former president of a Fall River bank, Staples is a past instructor for the American Institute of Banking and has published a number of articles on banking and finance.

He plans to continue to live in the Berkshires, do some writing and is considering several part-time businesses, including financial consulting.

Plant said he and his wife, the former Betty Rose of Elmira, N.Y., are looking for a house in the Lee area. They have four children.

Eagle 11/24/72

Miss Isabelle Kelly

Isabelle Kelly cited for work Recording for Blind

LEE — Miss Isabelle Kelly of High Street was awarded a plaque by co-workers at a recent reception held at the Lenox Recording for the Blind studio.

Miss Kelly, a retired teacher of French and English in Lee and Stockbridge schools, has worked more than 1,300 hours as a volunteer reader and monitor at the studio since 1965.

She is one of 240 volunteers in the Berkshires who record tapes, mainly of college textbooks, for free use by the blind.

Last year more than 10,000 hours were contributed by volunteers at the Lenox center.

Lee United Fund is given $2,500 for youth program

LEE — The United Community Fund Monday received a $2,500 grant from the Gardiner Howland Shaw Foundation of Boston for a summer employment program for youths. The money will be used to reimburse the UCF for funds spend on the local program which began in early July and is scheduled to end before school starts.

Mrs. Catherine Carroll, a UCF director, said the money was received through Thomas L. McFalls, director of the United Way of Central Berkshire.

She said the 11 youths in the eight-week program spent four hours in the morning working and four hours in the afternoon with Robert Lohbauer, special education director at Lee High School. They were paid for eight hours of work per day.

Mrs. Carroll said the cost of the program has been paid by the UCF, the Neighborhood Youth Corps and the grant as well as by the sponsoring institutions, Peter J. Schweitzer Division of Kimberly-Clark Corp., Greenock Country Club, the Playground Department, the high school and the First Congregational Church.

Lohbauer said yesterday that some of the youths were students he had taught last year who needed continuing contact with him; some were youths whose only problem was that they had no income, and some were youths who might have become delinquent ou of the boredom of not working.

The director said the afternoons were spent in group discussions, outdoor recreation and in special work or study projects.

The objective of the program, he explained, was to give the youths an income, work experience and a sense of self-importance, and to help them realize there is a place for them to society.

"It was slow-going, at first, because we had no sense of being a group," Lohbauer said. "No one opened up and no one felt like talking about their problems or feelings about work. But things have begun to move in the last couple of weeks, and if the program could have lasted a few weeks more, we might have really accomplished something."

He termed the project a "pilot program" and said a similar program — with changes — should be set up next summer.

Announcing

Eagle 1/29/75

Lee bank to open Otis branch

LEE — Lee National Bank will open its first out-of-town branch Feb. 10 in Otis, bank president Frank P. Consolati said today.

Although Berkshire Bank & Trust Co. of Pittsfield yesterday announced plans to close a branch in Great Barrington, Consolati said that bank officials here are convinced that "we can give banking services to the area and at the same time do well for ourselves."

Consolati said that substantial numbers of Otis residents already do business with the Lee bank. Additionally, the number of summer and weekend tourists is sufficient to warrant the service in Otis, he explained.

The branch will be housed in a new, single-story building at the intersection of Routes 8 and 23 leased "on a long-term basis" from leisure-home developer John T. Galanek, president of Chamonix Chalet Properties, Inc., of Tolland, Consolati said.

Open Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the branch will be staffed by Richard P. Ziter of Pittsfield and Jane L. Lawless of Otis.

Lee 8/13/73

Aging council planning discount plan

LEE — The Council on Aging is seeking merchants' support for a retail product and service discount program for elderly persons.

Ms. Helen Mougin, executive director for the council, said that under the program, elderly persons will be issued cards identifying them as eligible for the program. Local merchants who join the program would then sell their goods or services at a discount to any card holder.

It would be up to the merchants to choose the type and amount of discount. Ms. Mougin said the discounts might be percentage reductions off retail prices, two services for the price of one (such as beauty shop treatments), additional coupons or trading stamps.

Several businesses have already agreed to offer discounts, Ms. Mougin said. She and other council members will seek to enlist support from most of the businesses in town, especially those with whom the elderly deal with the most.

Barbara Van Nice

Mrs. Henry Lawrence watches her new husband play the violin at the reception following their wedding Saturday at the Pines Nursing Home in Great Barrington.

Never too late to wed

By **BARBARA VAN NICE**

GREAT BARRINGTON — It's never too late for a lot of things in life, and two Pines Nursing Home residents proved it this weekend by getting married.

Mrs. Annie Consolini Negri Lee, 62, and Henry Lawrence, 76, Pines residents for about 1½ years, exchanged vows (his a definite "I will," hers in a quieter tone) in the tiny Pines Chapel Saturday.

The two have been inseparable since they met at the home. Staff members said the romance blossomed over card games and newspaper reading sessions.

World War I veteran

About 60 fellow residents, staff members and relatives witnessed the ceremony performed by the Rev. Herbert Robinson and the Rev. Homer Griggs. Mrs. Russell Smith, accordionist, played the wedding march. Mr. Robinson and Mr. Lawrence are members of the Veterans of World War I.

Mrs. Eric Parent, a Pines nurses' aide, was matron of honor. Patricia Vincent, Mr. Lawrence's granddaughter, was flower girl. Mr. Parent and Daniel Schmulski, both on the staff, were best man and usher, respectively.

After the short ceremony and kiss, the bride headed out of the chapel, bouquet of roses, carnations and anenomes in hand. Reminded to wait for Mr. Lawrence, she returned to slowly promenade arm-in-arm with him down the hall to the room where the reception was held. Her husband grinned and waved.

A singalong

"Come on over here," the bride said, summoning Mr. Lawrence to stand in the reception line. Residents, relatives and staff heartily kissed and congratulated them.

Then, formalities aside, Mr. Lawrence doffed his jacket and pulled out his violin. After a sip or two of the wine and fruit punch, he played "Beer Barrel Polka," accompanied by Mrs. Smith and guests clapping in time. Another woman was drafted to play piano, and the threesome broke into "Let Me Call You Sweetheart." The guests sang along.

The couple took time out for a slow, careful dance, the only one of the reception, and to cut the wedding cake.

Some time later, after dinner at the home, they were to be taken to the Red Lion Inn, Stockbridge, where flowers and a bottle of champagne awaited them for their weekend stay.

There would be no rice and no tin cans on the car, said Miss Holly Harmon, Pines activities director and organizer of the celebration.

Mr. Lawrence's two daughters, Mrs. Gordon Vincent and Mrs. Mary Jane Beckwith, attended the wedding. His two sons, Donald and Henry Jr., were not present.

'Happiness every day'

An "old-timer, he did everything in his day," said one daughter describing Mr. Lawrence. In World War I, he served on a Navy minesweeper. The U.S. Navy Band in Washington, D.C., once played his composition, a march called "Peanuts, Popcorn and Crackerjacks" back in 1934.

He has 21 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

His bride has two sons, Dominic and Louis Negri, and a daughter, Mrs. Beth Carson. They did not attend.

Mr. Lawrence, his daughter said approvingly, "has had happiness every day from Annie. Who could ask for more than that?"

Oct. 17.1971

Eileen Moone

LEE SAVINGS BANK branch opened yesterday on Main Street in Stockbridg with a turnout of an estimated 100 to 125 persons. Peter Brown is branch manager. Also staffing the facility is Kathy Naventi.

'72

Donald MacGillis

WYNDCOTE, the former Acton estate on Yale Hill in Stockbridge, is being purchased by novelist Norman Mailer, who plans to make it his principal residence. The estate was built about 70 years ago.

1971

Padraic Spence

SOLD IN TYRINGHAM for $185,000 was the 47-acre estate, South House, on Fernside Road. Estate includes this 15-room house, two cottages, a large garage and a stable. Purchaser was Gary Devore of Los Angeles.

California Couple Buy Tyringham Property

TYRINGHAM — South House, a 47-acre estate overlooking Tyringham Valley from the west, was sold Monday for $185,000 to Gary Devore of Los Angeles, associate producer of the Steve Allen television show and husband of the widow of singer Nat King Cole.

The estate, on Fernside Road, was sold by Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Potter, who are retaining approximately 65 acres of woodland on either side of South House. Devore also purchased the assets of Land Maintainers, Inc., a brush-cutting and snow-plowing business operated by Potter from the property.

The estate includes a 15-room house in what has been referred to as Westchester Georgian style of architecture, as well as two cottages, a combination barn and garage, and a stable.

Originally built as a summer house in 1917, the main house was remodeled in 1927 and a one-story stone facade was added. The land was once part of the Tyringham Shaker holdings.

The sale was made through the office of Mrs. Mary Pelkey, Stockbridge real estate broker

20)

REMEMBER that we told about a haunted house in Monterey a couple of weeks ago? It was a story that ran in the weekly tabloid *Midnight*, and we checked with folks in that town who said none of the details could possibly apply to Monterey. In fact, the names used in the story appear on no town records, so it seems to be either fiction or about some other town.

However, we recalled writing another story about a Berkshire County haunted house ages ago, and the other day we came across it in our files. It was in July 1940, and related to an old farmhouse on the upper road between Lee and Stockbridge which had been handsomely restored by a well-to-do, elderly New York couple. They asked us not to use their names "because we'd never be able to keep a servant," said the wife. Now that both have long been dead, it can do no harm to reveal them as Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Saunders. The restored house was then at least 150 years old.

We visited them on an eerie thundery sort of day, and Mrs. Saunders ushered us into the living room. After the house had been restored by a talented New York decorator, she told us, this very living room proved oddly untenable. For one thing, it had a curious portal that opened onto the lawn, known as a funeral door. Many old houses had these, because front halls were too narrow to carry a casket through after a funeral service.

"But there was something else wrong with the room," said Mrs. Saunders. "No one could sit in it for long. If I tried to read, I couldn't concentrate. If friends called, they became uneasy and after a few minutes would suggest going into another room for no particular reason. It was like a game, it was so infallible. The only way I can describe the sensation was an unpleasant feeling of coolness."

One day a New York friend of hers belonging to a psychic research group was visiting Mrs. Saunders when her fox terrier began sniffing nervously. "I don't know what ails him," observed Mrs. S. Replied her friend, "I do. There's someone else in the room with us. An old, old man sitting behind you. He doesn't like having people in here." Inquiry revealed that old-timers remembered such a man who had died 50 years before at age 80. He feared people and when visitors came, he would retire to this room, lock the doors and pull the shutters and wait till they left.

Although the Saunderses never saw the old man, their mulatto maid said one day, "You're afraid to talk about that old man in front of me, aren't you? Well, I've seen him around here many times. He always goes in and out through that funny door in the corner of the living room. I'm only afraid of the living, not the dead."

Notes and Footnotes

27 DEC 1971

AFTERTHOUGHTS: Some readers have wondered about the haunted house on the Lee-Stockbridge Road we mentioned last week, and the old man who haunted the living room and whose presence was felt, but who was only seen by folks with occult sense. As we pointed out, the original article was written by your reporter in 1940, after interviewing Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Saunders, the then occupants of the restored ancient dwelling. A psychic friend was visiting them, and quite unaware of the chill that invested the living room, described the old man who had lived there ages before, and who hated and feared people. He would lock himself in the living room and close the shutters when visitors came, remaining there until they left. Folks wonder if the unpleasant old man still sits in the corner by the fireplace, emitting chill vibrations through the living room. Well, probably not. Mrs. Saunders told us she had changed the color scheme to bright reds to counteract his baleful influence just before we did the story. "Since then," said she, "his influence seems to have disappeared." Whether he had moved away, or was just visiting somewhere, we don't know since we saw little of the occupants again. So, there . . . Just met Mr. and Mrs. Milan Morse who direct car-parking sum-

12 —The Berkshire Eagle, Saturday, Oct. 12, 1974

Names in the news

Just-turned innkeepers

LEE

Two Berkshire visitors entered the Morgan House here the night the Barrington Fair closed last month, expecting a quiet, leisure-filled dinner served by their just-turned-innkeeper friends, Gary and Maria Devore.

Instead, the new owners of the 121-year-old former stagecoach inn — themselves ferrying plates between cook and customer — tossed one a towel, the other a clipboard, and sent both to work serving a record 240 guests who had arrived that evening for dinner and drinks.

The impromptu bartender and hostess finally got the meal they'd come for, but not before they helped the Devores feed and send into the night some 60 more patrons than the inn ever had entertained at one time before.

The Morgan House bulged that night because of record crowds at the fair rather than changes at the inn, Devore says; he and his wife have yet to finish sifting through their new treasure, let alone begin its restoration. But when they finish doing both and the downtown landmark here finally bears their mark, crowds there may become an every-night affair.

Crowds, however, aren't likely to daunt Devore, a Los Angeles native, who, before moving to Tyringham permanently a year ago, had written scripts for television game shows, produced the Steve Allen program and originated "Golf for Swingers," a series featuring U. S. Open champion Lee Trevino.

Nor should they faze his wife, who sang blues with Duke Ellington, spent 17 years as singer Nat King Cole's wife until his death in 1965, and later hosted one of the early women's television talk shows.

The two met in 1969 in a Los Angeles television studio where both worked, and were married a short time later. To celebrate their first wedding anniversary, Boston-born Maria decided her husband should see New England, which was then spattered with fall's flush, as it is again today.

The trip included a visit to Pittsfield, where her parents had courted. The Berkshires so charmed the Californians that they purchased South House, an 111-acre estate draped on the western side of the Tyringham Valley. At first used during the summer, South House became the couple's year-round home in 1973, when their eldest son Kelly entered Connecticut's Kent School as a freshman. Twin daughters Timolin and Casey, 13, attend Berkshire Country Day School in Lenox; daughters Natalie, 23, and Carol, 20, are stalking entertainment careers elsewhere.

Looking for a business that "relies heavily on an ability to get along with people," and one that would give Devore time to write screenplays, the couple began their hunt for a restaurant soon after the move East. Four months ago they "offhandedly" learned that the history-bearing Lee inn could be bought; the purchase was completed this week when a liquor license transfer was approved.

"We want to make it a place where people can put their feet up," says Mrs. Devore, sketching the inn's future. Their plans are simple — "We want to restore it to what it has been," she submits — but include transforming two second-floor porches to al fresco dining spots where continental luncheons of bread, cheese and wine mix easily with noontime views of neighboring Town Hall and Main Street.

The proximity of the inn to the heart of town reflects an intertwining of the histories of both — and an intermingling with townspeople that the new innkeeps want very much. "You can't have a business in a small town and not be a part of it," Devore says. "In Los Angeles, perhaps; but not in Lee."

She is now talking to historians and decorators; he to suppliers and menu printers. "We've added Irish lamb stew to the menu because its awfully good," he says, "and because I love the sound of the words." He also is expanding the wine list to include some of the obscure but spectacular California wines that most New Englanders have yet to taste.

The ambience they seek comes from cheer, from comfort. "When Nat used to go on stage, he made people comfortable," she says. "That's what we're going to do."

Ralph E. Brown

Gary and Maria Devore: "We've added Irish stew"

Eagle. 8/20/74

Morgan House is sold

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — The Morgan House, the 19th-century former stagecoach inn on Main Street here that once hosted Buffalo Bill Cody, Horace Greeley, Robert E. Lee and President Ulysses S. Grant, is being sold to Gary M. and Marcia C. Devore of Tyringham for an as-yet undisclosed sum.

Devore, who moved here from Los Angeles, Calif., was formerly an associate producer of the Steve Allen television show. His wife is the widow of singer Nat King Cole.

Liquor license transfer

Mrs. Doris M. Schroeter of Richmond, who with her husband Louis has owned and operated the inn for the past four years, said this morning that although completion of the purchase won't occur until the liquor license is transferred to the new owners, she expects the Devores to join in interim operation of the inn shortly after Labor Day.

Edwin E. Reder, a Pittsfield lawyer who is acting as attorney for the Devores and as clerk of the corporation that will operate the Morgan House, said this morning that he hopes the transfer will be completed by Oct. 1.

Mrs. Schroeter said that the Devores, who reportedly have been looking for a restaurant in the area, approached her and her husband two months ago to discuss the purchase.

The Devores purchased South House, a 47-acre estate overlooking Tyringham valley for $185,000 in 1970.

The Schroeters purchased the inn in 1970 from Margaret S. Pero, wife of Earl F. Pero, who had operated the inn since 1933.

The Schroeters paid $100,000 for the inn, according to records in the Berkshire County Registry of Deeds in Pittsfield, and gave Lee Savings Bank a mortgage for $70,000.

Mrs. Schroeter, who described business at the inn as "seasonal and hectic," said she and her husband had no immediate plans for the future other than "taking a vacation."

The inn was built in the early 19th century as a private residence by William Porter, who moved to Lee in 1817. He lived in it until 1853, when Edwin Morgan purchased it and converted it to a stagecoach inn.

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New owners to restore Morgan House

121-year-old inn in Lee to reflect 19th century

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — The new owners of the Morgan House, the former Stagecoach Inn on Main Street here, plan to restore its 19th-century heritage while making it "a comfortable place for people to put their feet up in."

Mrs. Maria Cole Devore of Tyringham, who with her Husband [illegible], has purchased the 121-year-old inn, said this morning that they will keep it in operation while they return it "to an actual inn."

"We hope to reactivate the rooms on the second floor and [illegible] a large lunch business, [illegible]ly for people who are [illegible] through the area, but [illegible] who live here too,"

[illegible] an obligation to the [illegible] and those in the surrounding area — they want a comfortable restaurant where they can take their kids and also have a drink."

Mrs. Devore said that she and her husband had been looking for an inn to purchase in the area for some time. They had considered the Curtis Hotel in Lenox, she said, but decided that it was too large for what they wanted.

"And we love Lee — we love the people there. We'd been going in the Morgan House frequently and offhandedly learned that it might be available," she said.

They began purchase negotiations with Louis D. and Doris M. Schroeter, who owned and operated the inn, approximately three months ago and recently signed papers for the sale.

Mrs. Devore did not say what she and her husband paid for the inn, but said that it was more than the $100,000 the Schroeters paid in 1970.

Manager named

Louis J. DiGrigoli of Cape Street will manage the inn, Mrs. Devore said.

Saying that restoration was "my end of it," Mrs. Devore said that she planned to research the history of the inn "to restore it to what it has been."

Pointing to Francis Downing's restoration of his McClelland Drug Store next door to the Morgan House, Mrs. Devore said that as he had done, she and her husband wanted to return their building to "what it has been."

"We want to keep the charm of this beautiful part of the county — this is what people are coming to New England for. If we destroy that charm I think we would really be sorry," she said.

Although Mrs. Devore summered in Berkshire County as a child, she and her husband first came here from Los Angeles in 1970 when they purchased South House, a 47-acre estate in Tyringham, as a summer home. They subsequently added 64 acres to the estate. They moved here permanently a year ago.

Her husband is a television screenplay writer who also was an associate producer of the Steve Allen television show. He also created the Lee Trevino "Golf for Swingers" show and produced it for two years.

Mrs. Devore was formerly married to the late singer Nat King Cole.

District Court

The Morgan House Is Occupied By New Owners With New Ideas

LEE — A native of Los Angeles and one of Boston, with the help of a lot of born-and-bred Berkshirites, have given the Morgan House a new look and taste. Simply put, the progress report on the century-old inn is: reservations are necessary.

Maria and Gary Devore of Tyringham, who purchased the business last September, report that renovation of the downstairs restaurant and bar are "85 percent complete" — verification of which takes only a couple of steps into the front door.

Perhaps the most stunning change in the establishment's interior is the porch, whose long windows align Main Street, and which was formerly used only as a summer sitting area. It is now fully-insulated, and used as an extension of the tavern. Patrons may now sit and sip inches from their less-thirsty town counterparts who are strolling along the street, and catch any action at the town hall as well.

The main dining room has been re-wallpapered in colonial pattern, and a small dance floor has been placed in the center for Saturday night diner dancing. The room's other interior changes range from a new lighting system to new china and crystal on the tables.

As for the lobby — wallpapered with the signatures of the inn's guests dating back to 1867, the year it opened, — "we wouldn't dare touch that," Mrs. Devore said. The upstairs dining room is used for parties and meetings, and the 12 rooms for lodging there are slated to be renovated this Spring.

And the food: the first change the Devores instituted was, naturally enough, the menu. "The bread alone is worth showing up for," Devore noted, adding that all baked goods are created on the premises by Amy Loveless. Ms. Loveless is also the author of the restaurant's dessert specialty, Shaker cranberry pie.

Among the dinner entrees available are Irish lamb stew, Shaker fired chicken, and country barbequed spare ribs. Italian dishes and special children's plates are also available. The sandwich-boards which support each table's menu were made by Walter DeFreest of Lee, and the menus themselves were printed and charicatured by Peggy Nunnery.

Anthony Brindle, formerly the owner of the Rosa Restaurant in Pittsfield, the Lenox House, and Eastover, is the head chef.

The Devores met in Los Angeles where she had been the moderator/hostess of "Tempo," a talk show, of which he was later the co-producer. Married in 1969, the couple purchased the former Tyringham estate of Jeffrey Potter. The couple became year-round residents of the area when their son Kelly was accepted at nearby Kent School in 1973.

A native of Los Angeles currently writing screenplays for television, Devore's past television production efforts include Lee Trevion's Golf for Swingers and The Steve Allen Show. Mrs. Devore, originally from Boston, who became television's first talk-show hostess while with "Tempo" has five children by her first marriage to the late Nat King Cole.

The couple purchased the Morgan House because they'd eaten there, she liked its "country ambiance," and, above all, he needed a challange. Devore says the restaurant is not unlike producing a television show: "It's all presentation—which is the essence of show business."

The restaurant is managed by Louis DiGrigoli. The hostesses are Faith Crawford and Toni Bagnashi, both of Lee.

MORGAN
HOUSE

Harris Photo

Maria and Gary Devore, owners of the Morgan House in Lee, have nearly completed renovations in the restaurant portion of the establishment.

Eagle 1/23/75

Name in the news

Eternal optimist

LEE

Extra adjectives, positive ones, flutter through Henry T. Zukowski's speech. Enthusiasm and intensity, somehow unfettered by restraints others face, mark his looks and outlook. And optimism — called "eternal" by one colleague, "dogged" by another — directs his work and defines his character.

Zukowski is still leading the 1974 United Community Fund (UCF) drive here, even though it was supposed to end two weeks ago. Faced with rising unemployment and a falling economy, fund raisers ran into the most dramatic shortfall in pledges seen since the campaigns started here nine years ago. But Zukowski won't close the books until a few more sources have been tapped.

* * * *

"He doesn't feel as though people let him down," says UCF president Robert W. Birch. "He accepts the economic facts of the time. But he tends to be one who simply will not take 'no' for an answer."

"You can't intimidate him," agrees School Committee chairman William F. Tyer Jr. Zukowski is vice principal of Lee High School; Tyer has dealt with him frequently around a conference table.

"If he thinks something is right, he'll stick to it and fight for it. And it doesn't make any difference who is trying to change his mind."

That kind of inflexibility in another person could be called rigidity. But in Zukowski, his colleagues say, it is loyalty, both to a town and to a school system he has known since he arrived in town on a bus 23 years ago. With little more to his name than a bachelor's degree from Boston University, he entered the town for the first time three days before school started—not with a job, only the promise of an interview with the school superintendent, the late Arthur L. Welcome.

* * * *

"He (Mr. Welcome) didn't have very much choice," Zukowski recalls. "His business teacher had quit the day before, and I was his only applicant."

Zukowski got the job, and also the post of assistant football coach; 16 years later he was named head coach for a year when John J. Consolati left the job to take an administrative position at the elementary school.

Zukowski's Wildcats that year had a record distinguished only by the number of losses.

"But it was a very satisfactory season," he insists. "I have a philosophy of having as many participants in a game as possible — I played the whole bench. We didn't do so well that year, but boys I started as 9th-graders developed into very fine athletes as they went up the ladder. Two were named to intercounty teams as juniors and seniors."

* * * *

Zukowski's interests in athletics, and part-time work in country clubs begun during his teens, has actively involved him in the affairs of Greenock Country Club here, where he has been a director and chairman of the greens committee for close to 15 years. One green, in fact, still bears the mark of Zukowski's persistence, and draws a sheepish grin when he discusses it.

Ralph E. Brown

Zukowski: Played the whole bench

"In 1967, we decided to resod the green around the second hole. During the summer we changed greenskeepers, and the sod didn't get laid until we did it ourselves in the fall. Unfortunately, it froze before we put it in. Club crews laid new sod the following year. That green is still giving us trouble."

Not for want of trying, however. "His drive, his energy is boundless," says high school principal Robert Lucy. "And the kids here see it, respect it."

* * * *

When Zukowski does remove himself from the constant flow of students, school activities and community affairs, he withdraws to his Fairview Street home, his wife Joan, and children Laura, a freshman at Miss Hall's School in Pittsfield, and Donald, a 7th-grader at Central School.

He is sensitive to the eyebrows raised by his daughter's attending Miss Hall's School instead of Lee High, but defends it, as he has many other decisions, on the assumption that it is right for the student.

"Some day I'll find out if it really was the right one," he says.

According to custom, Zukowski's term as UCF campaign chairman ends after one drive. But he will remain as a director, and will nurture optimism in a corps of youth workers he developed this year. Like the freshmen on his hapless football team six years ago, "They're the future leaders of UCF," he says, "and they've got a lot to offer."

Eagle 1/21/75

Stockbridge entrepreneurs see evidence economy will improve

By Eileen Mooney

STOCKBRIDGE — On the basis of plans prepared by local industries which are their clients, two young partners in a sheet metal company here are forecasting an improved economy by mid-summer.

"There are more rumblings about activity now than there were four to five weeks ago. Some of the projects around here that were postponed are coming alive again," according to David Marvin.

Marvin, aged 30, and Thomas Harmon, 32, are partners in Davmar Mechanical Contracting of Lee, which designs, installs and services heating, air conditioning and pollution control systems. With Ottavio "Spike" Biasin, they are partners also in Davmar Sheet Metal which shapes sheet metal in a portion of a building where they rent space off Route 102 here.

The partners have talked at length with equipment representatives and studied business magazines. More significantly, they have seen proposed contracts by local industries that want to renovate buildings or — especially prominent — add pollution control devices.

* * * *

"The economic improvements won't come in early spring, when they usually do, but they'll be here by summer," Marvin asserts.

He won't name proposed projects, but he does note that Davmar Mechanical has worked at the new West Stockbridge branch of Great Barrington Savings Bank, Lee Lime's renovated office, U.S. Fiber Corp. in Lee and General Electric buildings in Pittsfield.

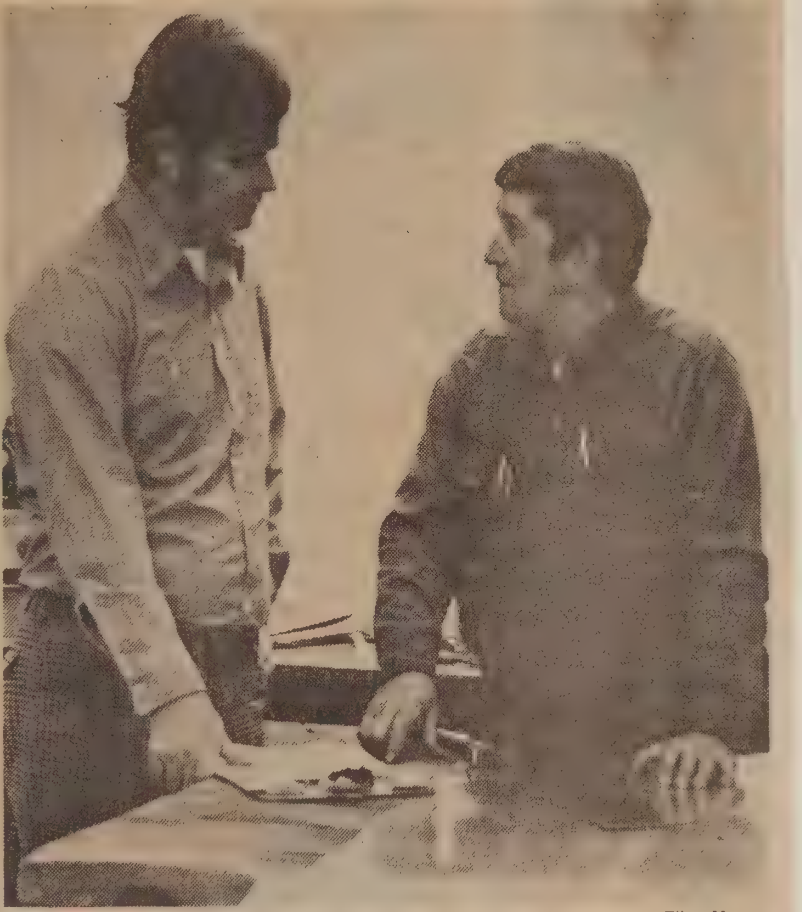
This summer, the firm will install the ventilating and heating system of the new Stockbridge fire house.

An encouraging economic sign is that prices slowly are coming down, "especially in steel and copper," Marvin observes.

But offsetting that is a possible increase in the cost of gasoline, which the two companies use in quantity. About 1,200 gallons a month are needed for a total of five trucks, a forklift and crane, Harmon estimates.

"Our entire business revolves around the movement of the vehicles," the partners emphasized recently in their comfortable office on Lee's Main Street. "Raising fuel prices is an inflationary act."

Partially to offset the anticipated gasoline price increase, their billing rate will increase, they indicated.



Eileen Mooney

Partner Harmon and employe Biasin

* * * *

The partners met about three years ago when Harmon, an accounting supervisor at Petricca Construction Co. in Pittsfield, hired Marvin's wife. Marvin was then working for Frosty Refrigeration Co. in Pittsfield.

Two years ago they formed Davmar Mechanical and hired Biasin, a Lee native who had been working at the George van Zandt Sheet Metal Co. in Lee.

Davmar Sheet Metal's "first seed was planted last June, when the economy was rolling along," Harmon recalls. Biasin came in as a partner, they rented space in the manufacturing complex off Route 102 just west of the Lee town line and opened for business in November.

* * * *

Davmar Sheet Metal employes about five people, including two in an apprentice program. Besides Harmon, Marvin and a secretary, Davmar Mechanical employs five persons, including two on a work-study program with Lee High School.

"We're a merit shop," Harmon explains. "We let our employes advance by their talents, not job function or seniority. And they can do more than one function. That lets us be more competitive."

It's Beginning To Look A Like Christmas

Harris Photo

Traditionally enough, familiar Christmas decorations adorned the street lights on Main Street in Lee soon after the Thanksgiving carcass was placed in the soup pot.

Frank V McCarthy

CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS was among the skits presented at yesterday's annual program at St. Mary's School in Lee. Characters are Patrick Downing as Snoopy, Larry Humason as Charlie Brown, Theresa Baldisserotto as Lucy and Kevin Kelly as Linus. About 300 persons turned out for the program. Eagle 12/21/74

Berk Courier Dec 26 1974

Harris Photo

Lee Central School Principal Raymond B. Kavey looks on as some of his kindergarten charges scramble for the sweet innards of the hanging pinata. Each student had three hits with a stick at the panda, which was filled with hard candy and peanuts. The panda was made by art teacher Beth Taylor's seventh-grade class.

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Eagle 12/10/74

James E. Overmyer

LEE FIREFIGHTERS open ventilation holes under the eaves of High Street residence of Isabelle J. Kelly. Blaze started in basement of house shortly before 11 p.m. and took three hours to extinguish. The house was unoccupied.

Fire damages Lee house

LEE — A blaze that reportedly started in the vicinity of a basement oil burner burned out two rooms and damaged others at the unoccupied High Street residence of Isabelle J. Kelly last night, officials said this morning.

Fire Chief Ottavio B. Giarolo said that the alarm, received at 11:05, sent four trucks and 30 firefighters to battle a fire that took nearly three hours to extinguish. Firemen left the house at 2 a.m.

Both near chimney

Giarolo said that the flames started in the cellar and burned through two floors to the attic. The first-floor living room and a second-floor bedroom, both near a chimney, were severely damaged, he said.

Miss Kelly, a retired teacher of French and English in Lee and Stockbridge schools, was not at home when the fire began. She is reported to be a patient in a nursing home.

Giarolo said that the house was being looked after by a friend, Mrs. Daniel R. Sullivan of Fairview Street. The furnace was set to provide enough heat to keep the house from being damaged by cold.

No cause for the fire has been established but officials were expected to return to the house today to begin an investigation, Giarolo said.

Heavy smoke

The chief said that heavy smoke during the blaze prompted firemen to don breathing equipment, and they consumed 18 portable cylinders of air.

A mutual-aid team from Len-Dale brought its truck to the tral fire station here on a dby basis, Giarolo said.

Berkshire Courier 12/12/74

Harris Photo

This century-old house belonging to Isabelle J. Kelly of Lee was gutted by fire Monday night. Estimated damage of the fire, which was caused by a malfunctioning in a chimney pipe, is not yet known, according to Miss Kelly's neice, Marilyn Sullivan. No one was in the structure at the time.

Donelan Nominated As Lee Special Justice; Alberti Confirmed

GREAT BARRINGTON — Robert J. Donelan, 52, of East Road, Alford, was nominated yesterday for the position of Special Justice of the Lee District Court, to succeed Charles Alberti, whose nomination as Justice of the Southern Berkshire district Court was confirmed unanimously yesterday by the Governor's Council.

Donelan, who was born in Boston, graduated Cum Laude with an AB from Boston College in 1943. He attended Boston College Law School from 1943 to 1946, obtaining his LLB and graduating first in his class. He was admitted to the Massachusetts Bar on October 2, 1946.

On graduating from law school, Donelan became law clerk to the late George C. Sweeney, Chief Judge of the United States District Court in Boston, until March 1948, at which time he became an associate of the law firm of Hale, Sanderson, Byrnes and Morton of Boston, where he remained until December, 1949.

In December 1949, Donelan moved to Great Barrington and opened his own law office, which he has maintained since.

Presently legal counsel to both the towns of Monterey and Alford, his legal practice is typical of that of a rural community without large industry, consisting mostly of probate, conveyancing, zoning and land use law, along with municipal law and some criminal law.

In addition to the general practice he maintains, Donelan has been Chairman of the Grievance Committee of the Berkshire Bar Association for two years, and is on the Board of Directors of Gould Farm in Monterey and the Board of Directors of the Great Barrington branch of the Berkshire Bank and Trust Company.

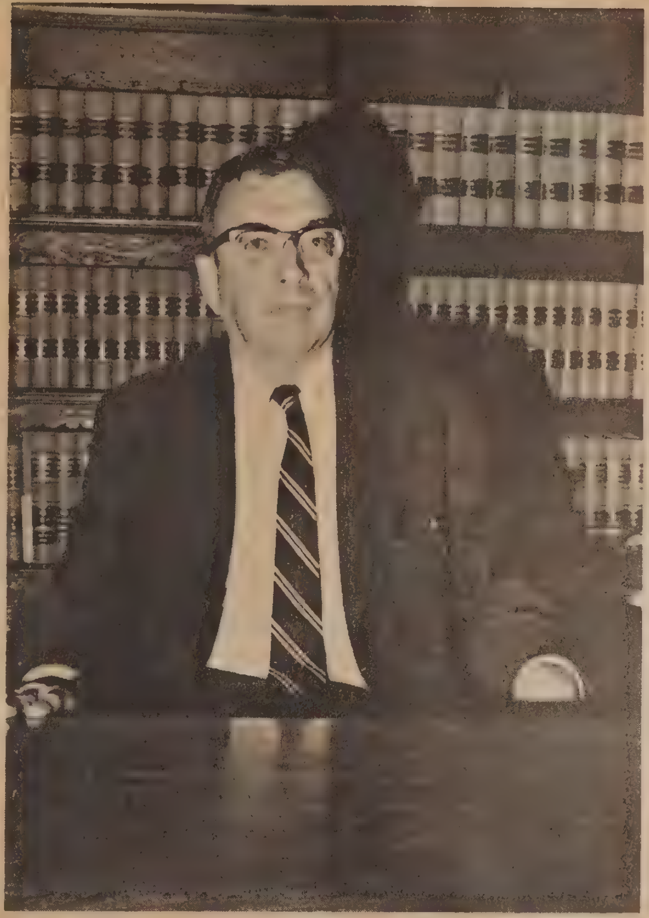
In July, the Supreme Court of Massachusetts appointed him one of the nine members of the Board of Bar Overseers, a position he still holds.

In addition, Donelan was one of three members of the Special Advisory Commission to the Advisory Committee of Probate Courts, which revised all the probate forms used in the courts of Massachusetts.

A member of the Board of Delegates of the Mass. Bar Association and Chairman of its program committee, he has also been appointed a Standing Master of the Superior Court.

Married to the former Carol Sue Smith of Newton, Donelan has one son, Geoffrey, 15, a student at the Salisbury School in Salisbury, Connecticut.

Attorney Donelan said that he was pleased to have been nominated for the position on the Lee Court.



ATTORNEY ROBERT J. DONELAN

William J. Brown Passes Bar Examination

Berk Courier Dec 24.1974

LEE — William J. Brown Jr., son of Mrs. Brown of 40 Housatonic Street, and the late Mr. Brown has passed his state bar examination and is setting up practice in in Springfield. He also plans to open an office in Lee.

He is teaching at Chestnut Hill Junior High School in Springfield and will continue that job until his law practice is operating.

He graduated in 1974 from the law school at Western New England College in West Springfield, where he won the American jurisprudence award for excellence in civil procedure.

He also graduated from St. Joseph's High School: attended St. Mary's University, N.S., Canada, and received his bachelor of arts degree in Spanish from the University of St. Thomas in Houston.

Brown is married to the former Cynthia Bickford of Lee. They have two children. .

Courier 1/9/75

Harris Photo

Senator Edward M. Kennedy greeted followers and not a few worshippers during the reception held for him Monday night at the Lee Knights of Columbus. The Senator was an hour late for the affair, and stayed only 25 minutes instead of the scheduled hour, but he managed to make amends smoothly with the nearly 200 people present.

Sen. Kennedy Meets The Public In Lee

By James K. Harris

LEE — He made no statement that was especially profound or original. In fact, his nine-minute deliverance at the rostrum consisted of a wide variety of political topics dealed out in one or two sentences. But Senator Edward M. Kennedy could have held Monday night's audience at the Knights of Columbus at bay had he spoken in a foreign tongue.

Kennedy was scheduled for an eight o'clock arrival and an hour-long visit for the reception given by the Lee Town Democratic Committee. Instead, he showed up at 9 and remained a scant twenty-eight minutes. There were no chairs in the upstairs lecture room, where nearly two hundred stood in near-tropical heat. For most speakers, such a setting would spell disaster. For any Kennedy anywhere in the Bay State, they were assets.

The Senator was met at the door by Democratic Committee chairman Jerome Scully and Selectmen Chairman Jack Wheeler ostensibly hosts of the affair, but the minute he waded into the room Kennedy was the host. He began to sign a few autographs, and was told that he was to speak upstairs. In a booming voice, he called to his herd, "Let's go upstairs!" Amid the sparkle of flashcubes he led the procession up the narrow back stairway, and, once at the rostrum, exhorted his listeners to move from their coveted close-up positions so the horde

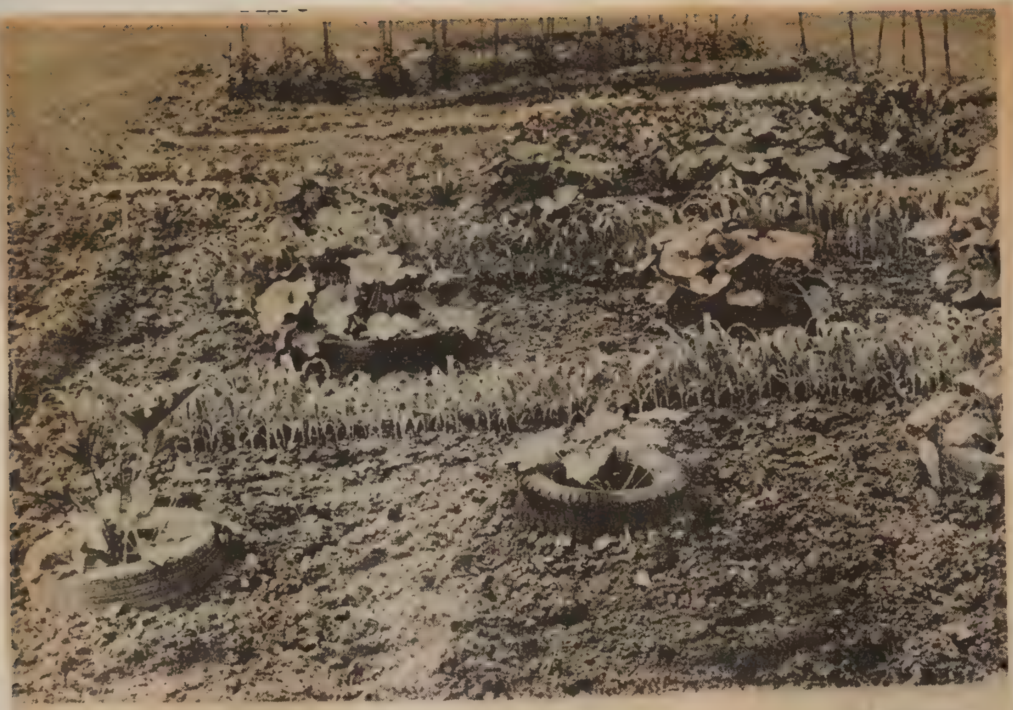
Kennedy

Continued from Page 1

on the stairway could join them.

He gulped some ice-water, looked at the crowd, and said "I hope this is approved by the building inspector. We don't want to lose all the Democrats in Southern Berkshire." All laughed. Noticing the large amount of youngsters present: "Have you done your homework? Better see if your teacher is present" More laughter.

He began his talk, summarizing his views on the subjects of the day, his face naturally assuming various statures that turn Kodak instamatics into Nikons. Energy, job security, uduntarism or gas rationing or a tax increase —



Harris Photo

In response to those people wondering about uses for tires, here is another: black rubber makes for a greener thumb, according to Bill Derrick of Lee, who surrounds his squash and cucumber plants (four per tire). Derrick claims the tires retain the heat from the sun and moisture from the rain, and thus speed the growing process.

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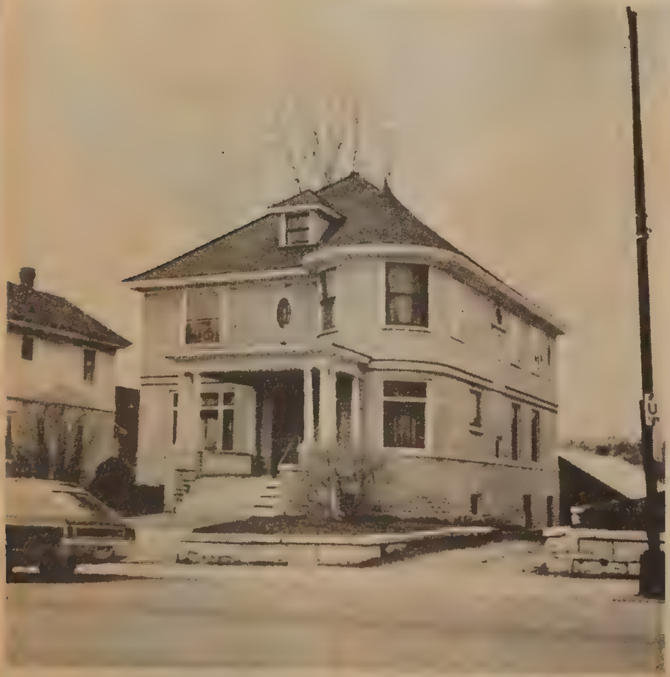
10 The Berkshire Courier, Thursday, July 17, 1975



LEE LANDMARK CHANGES HANDS

LEE — The Graham house at 115 Main Street has been sold by the heirs of the builder, Nicholas Graham, to Maire N. Privitera of Lee.

Owned continuously by the Graham family since its construction in 1896 the property is one of the last in the center of Lee still in the hands of an old family.

The sale was negotiated by Lee Realtor Charles J. Donahoe. Privitera buys for investment.

Ralph E. Brown

LEE WINEMAKER Churchward Davis Sr. ties one cane of a Baco Noir grapevine to a trellis line in his East Street vineyard while family members work in the background. Seven varieties of grapevines were planted last year, but pruning to encourage root and cane growth will delay the first crop until 1976.

Davis clan may give Berkshires vintage '76 bicentennial year

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — By his own admission, Churchward Davis Sr. isn't much of a gardener. His wife Jean cultivates a modest vegetable garden at the side of their house here, and battles a woodchuck who enjoys fresh salads as much as the Davises do.

But across from their East Street home, in a nine-acre pasture that climbs into the foothills of October Mountain, lies a different kind of garden. There, Davis and eight members of his family are coaxing 2,500 vines into producing grapes for wine.

Although Berkshire County has yet to become one of the noted wine-producing regions of America, Davis's nephew, Alan Clayson, analyzed the soil two years ago and pronounced the pasture's blend of fertility and drainage to be sufficient for grape growing.

Clayson, a creative director for product development at Eaton Paper Co. in Pittsfield, doesn't do soil analysis professionally. But R. Francis Stone, one of the Davis sons-in-law, says that Clayson has traveled widely and studied wine enough to be considered a true aficionado, and convinced the family to start its vineyard.

The Davises formed Churchstone Corp. to facilitate financing and crop liability, and plowed and harrowed the pasture in the fall of 1972. The following spring they spent three weekends digging 3,000 holes by hand and filling them with vine cuttings purchased from Boordy Vineyards in Riderwood, Md.

Although the new vines grew quickly in the rich pastureland, the grape-growers pruned back fruit-producing buds to force the plants to develop hardy root and stalk growth. They are repeating the process this year, will do the same next year and, finally, let the first crop of grapes mature in 1976.

French hybrid vines

Davis and his family planted seven varieties of French hybrid vines: Baco Noir, Seibel 5279 and 13053, Seyve-Villard 5276, Millot, Foch and Ravat 51. Wines produced from the grapes are similar to those produced in New York State.

A Baco Noir produced by Bully Hill Vineyards in the New York Finger-Lakes region is available locally at $4.40 per fifth. The 1972 vintage had a robust body to it, although its acidity and dryness were not nearly so smooth or pleasing as some of the classic California Cabernets.

Grapes produced during the first few years will be sold to wineries and individual purchasers, says Stone, who with his wife, Susan Davis Stone, moved here from Boston last year to join the family's Churchstone Vineyards.

If the vineyard can be enlarged, and if other county residents can be encouraged to start their own vineyards, Stone wants the family to build a winery to crush the grapes and produce wine themselves.

Stone, a technical editor at General Electric Co. in Pittsfield, says 70 to 80 acres of grapes would need to be grown before a winery could be operated economically. Churchstone currently has five of its nine acres planted.

Cultivating procedures, although time-consuming, are relatively simple, Stone says. The vines are planted in rows four feet apart and pruned to run along cedar-post-and-plastic-wire trellises.

Weeding by hand

The space between the rows is weeded with a harrow pulled by a tractor. Weeding directly underneath the vines so far has been done by hand, but starting next year will be done using herbicides.

Pests and fungus are controlled with Sevin and Captan, although last year's spraying came too late to prevent damage from Japanese beetles.

Pruning, which began in February of this year, consists of cutting older canes back to 36-inch trunks and encouraging four new ones to grow along the plastic wire trellis arms.

Davis, a vice president at Eaton Paper, says his family has some $10,000 invested in the vineyard. But if the project succeeds, and if Berkshire weather favors him, Davis estimates the five acres now planted could yield $12,000 to $15,000 worth of grapes each season.

Although Churchstone won't begin manufacturing wine commercially for some time, the Davises are planning to make their own after the first harvest. Federal law permits heads of households to produce 200 gallons of wine for family consumption.

If Stone, Clayson, Davis, Davis's son Churchward Jr. and son-in-law Stuart Kameny, all corporation members and heads of households, take advantage of that provision, Churchstone Vineyards would have a healthy yield of 1,000 gallons of wine from its first harvest — not a bad result for weekend gardening.

Although the label may not become as ubiquitous as Taylor or Gallo, Bully Hill or Inglenook, Churchstone wine may offer Berkshirites still another reason for not leaving the hills.

14 —The Berkshire Eagle, Friday, Feb. 14, 1975

Famed fighter for rights was onetime Lee resident

By Walter Wilson

This week — Black History Week — is an opportune time for Berkshirites to begin digging out the story of black people's contribution to Berkshire County.

In view of the forthcoming bicentennial, a search of every nook, cranny, library and archive by newspapers, historical societies, civil-rights organizations and individuals is needed to uncover the long-obscured stories and information about, or related to, Berkshire black folk.

One such story, almost completely untouched to date, concerns a Berkshire-connected white man, Albion Winegar Tourgee, who was one of the most effective 19th-century allies the black race ever had.

* * * *

Though native to Ohio, Tourgee was orphaned at an early age and came to live for a while as a teen-ager with his mother's family, the Winegars, along Hop Brook in Lee and Tyringham.

Later he joined the Union Army and fought until he was captured and held in a Confederate prison. After the war, because of ill-health incurred by battle wounds and captivity, he took his family to live in Greensboro, N.C. Meanwhile, he had passed the bar and planned to support his family with a law practice and plant nursery.

Eventually, Tourgee was elected to the North Carolina Supreme Court and made a lasting contribution by codifying the state's laws.

Tourgee could not, however, root himself in his new location. To his white-establishment neighbors he was nothing but a typical "nigger-loving" carpetbagger. Worse still, they thought, he was a mortal enemy of the "midnight assassins" or Ku Klux Klan. After repeated threats on his life and family by KKK neighbors, Tourgee moved to New York State.

There he wrote "A Fool's Errand," a novel defending the Union, exposing the South's second underground secession and attacking the KKK. Steele MacKaye, a playwright of the time, joined Tourgee in producing a play of the same name which opened in the Arch Theatre in Philadelphia and then toured the country.

* * * *

Albion Winegar Tourgee
Lived on Hop Brook

Irate Southerners tried to write rebuttals, but it was not until the Rev. Thomas Dixon Jr. wrote "The Clansman," on which was based D. W. Griffith's anti-Negro epic film, "Birth of a Nation," that the KKK had its defense. Dixon admitted he wrote "The Clansman" in answer to Tourgee, and the movie captions quote Tourgee.

Tourgee never ceased his activities as citizen, lawyer and judge in trying to win the Negro's right to first-class citizenship. In his later life, his pro-black reputation was such that militant New Orleans blacks asked his help in a Jim Crow case, Plessy vs. Ferguson. Plessy was a black North Carolina youth who volunteered to act as a test by riding a "whites only" railroad car from which he had to be forcibly removed.

Tourgee lost the case in the U.S. Supreme Court. That august body decided that separate but equal facilities for blacks fulfilled the Constitution. Its decision was not overthrown until the 1954 Brown-vs. the Board of Education case.

* * * *

Tourgee never knew that. Nor did he know that Griffith, Lillian Gish, Cecil B. DeMille and others associated with "Birth of a Nation" would invade his beloved Berkshire Hills and live for a while in a mansion called Blantyre.

Names such as Tourgee and W.E.B. Du Bois represent the beginning of research into Berkshire black history. More searching needs to be done so that black folk may be honored in programs designed for the nation's bicentennial.

Walter Wilson, a writer, longtime civil-rights activist and real-estate broker, is the founder of the W.E.B. Du Bois Memorial Park in Great Barrington. He lives in East Chatham, N.Y.

Eagle
1-10-75

Marriage counselor to address couples club

Rev. William M. Hydon

DALTON — The Rev. William M. Hydon, director and resident counselor of the newly established Counseling Center in the Berkshires, will speak at the Jan. 18 meeting of the Couples Club of the First Congregational Church.

An invitation is extended to all couples of the community and surrounding areas.

Mr. Hydon has been with the Center since last summer and is directing a program of individual counseling, group therapy, marriage counseling, family therapy and psychological testing, together with referral service to other agencies as needed.

The Counseling Center is an interfaith, interracial program providing help as an affiliate of the Institute of Religion and Health.

Former pastor

Mr. Hydon is a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University and Drew Theological Seminary. He is an ordained clergyman in the United Methodist Church and was pastor of churches in New York from 1963-1974.

He received his graduate certificate from the Institute of Religion and Health upon completion of an extensive four-year training residency in marriage and family counseling and psychotherapeutic counseling. He is a clinical member of the American Association of Marriage and Family Counselors and is connected with the American Association of Pastoral Counselors.

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

HANDMADE QUILT will be one of the items raffled off at a bazaar to be sponsored by the Lee Golden Agers on Saturday from 10 to 2 at Fellowship Hall in the Lee Congregational Church. Pictured from left to right are Mina Cunnitz, chairman of the group's sewing committee, June Gage, Verda Spence and Juanita Weed. The quilt is 78 by 90 inches. Saturday's bazaar will feature many other handmade items.

Ralph Brown

DICKSON HOUSE in Tyringham will be used by Governor-elect Dukakis and wife as a weekend retreat.

Camp David in the Berkshires

Dukakis family will use Tyringham house

By A. A. Michelson

A Camp David it isn't, but the two-bedroom house near the center of Tyringham that belongs to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ellis Dickson is going to do for Governor-elect Michael S. Dukakis what the Western Maryland estate has done for U.S. Presidents for 20 years.

The Dicksons are the parents of Kitty Dukakis, the governor-elect's wife.

"We plan to get up there on as many weekends as possible to get some work done and at the same time relax in the pleasant surroundings of the hills," Dukakis said in an interview with The Eagle this week.

While the Dickson home would be to Dukakis what Camp David is to U. S. Presidents, the comparison stops there. The house in Tyringham — there is a small three-room cottage in the rear — is privately owned and on the property-tax rolls of Tyringham. Camp David has hundreds of acres, stately buildings, helicopter pads, and a vast year-round staff for the houses and the grounds, all paid for by taxpayers.

the Statehouse, but Dukakis doesn't contemplate one. Instead, he plans to move the Governor's Council room, which adjoins the governor's office, to another part of the building. He also might relocate the adjoining third-floor suite which has been occupied for many years by the attorney general.

Still on the trolley

And he insists that he will still ride the trolley in from Brookline.

"I've been doing it for the past 20 years," he said, "and I certainly don't want to stop at this time when mass transportation needs more visibility than ever in Metropolitan Boston."

"Don't you think that people will climb all over you with their complaints and asking for special favors?" he was asked.

"I've been doing it every day since election day," he answered, "and I haven't been badgered at all. Matter of fact people have spoken up about problems of state government, and I think that's all for the good. But so far they still look on me as the same passenger they have seen on the Brookline run for years."

It's a choice

The Dukakis life-style is not dictated by economic necessity. As a law partner at Hale & Dorr, one of the more prestigious law firms in Boston, he could afford a higher standard of living.

"But what for?" he asks. "We live in a fine house in a fine neighborhood in a fine community. We have excellent public schools. It makes much more sense to go into town on the trolley than fight my way in by car, fight for a parking place and then fight my way home at night."

He also has no plans for trading in the 1968 Valiant. "It runs well and gets us where we're going," he said.

A BSO violinist

Kitty has been a summer resident of the Berkshires since infancy. Her father, who is a first violinist in the Boston Symphony Orchestra, joined the BSO in 1938, the year the Shed at Tanglewood was completed. The Dicksons came up with their two daughters — the other one is Mrs. Robert Shain of Westwood — and lived in a number of places and apartments in Lee, Lenox, Stockbridge and Pittsfield before settling in Tyringham. For 20 years they lived in a cottage of the Dr. Henry Field estate on Jerusalem Road. When the estate was sold about eight years ago, they bought their present place on Main Road.

Mrs. Dickson is the former Jane Williams of New York. She met Harry in the early 1930s when he was studying at a conservatory of music in Berlin. She was born in New York, but educated largely in Europe.

"We still speak a lot of French and German at home," Dickson says.

Dickson, who is also assistant conductor to Arthur Fiedler of the Boston Pops, is putting together the musical portion of his son-in-law's inaugural.

"I think," he said, "we'll be able to get the Boston Pops to perform and I even may get Danny Kaye in on the act."

Eagle 12/14/74

W. Merritt McBrian

McBrien heads Home Care Corporation

W. Merritt McBrian of Tyringham has been elected president of the board of Berkshire Home Care Corp., replacing Charles R. Whiteman of Williamstown, who has resigned after serving since May.

Frederick H. Whitham, executive director of the program for the elderly which was founded here last spring and operates with state funds, said that 10 new board members also were elected by the corporation's board of directors.

Grant approved

Whitham also announced that a grant of $104,465 from the state Department of Elderly Affairs for the Home Care Corporation had been approved.

Whitham said the grant will be used for the delivery of home-care services for the elderly through programs run by homemaker, chore and transportation aides that will be hired by the corporation.

McBrian has been a year-round resident of Tyringham since retiring 10 years ago from the Grumman Aircraft Corp., where he was an industrial engineer. He is a graduate of Columbia University. He is a director of Lee National Bank and a member of the Berkshire Mental Health Society board of directors.

At its meeting Wednesday, the board of directors also created a new position of vice president and elected Thomas F. Condron, assistant principal of Hoosac Valley High School, to the post.

The new directors are:

Bradford Jameson of Dalton; Dorothy Bejtlich, executive director of the Urban Coalition; Ida Mower, a member of the social studies department at Berkshire Community College; Bertha Clark; president of the Berkshire County Consortium on Human Needs, and James A. Bowes, chairman of the County Commissioners, who will leave office in January.

Also, Rita C. Marcil, a personnel officer at the naval plant representative office at the General Electric Co.; Isodore Goodman, president of Isgood Realty; Francis Wilson of Williamstown; Harold Hennessy, retired principal of Pittsfield High School, and Ralph K. Schorge of Cheshire.

YMCA schedules

St. Mary's Gives its Regards to Ol' Broadway

ST. MARY'S REVUE — Parishioners of St. Mary's Church in Lee will present "St. Mary's on Broadway" this Thursday, Friday and Saturday at St. Mary's School. Directed by Joseph Savery, with music provided by Jacqueline Abbott, the musical revue features songs and dances from popular Broadway shows. The first two performances are sold out, but tickets are still available for February 16—$2 at the door and $3.50 for reserved seats. Reservations can be made with May Avigo (243-0756), and curtain time Saturday is 8 p.m.

Photos by John Waring

Harris Photo

Innkeeper Jessie Cibelli, who opened her Bonnie Bank Inn on Route 7 in Stockbridge this week in the former quarters of Orpheus Ascending.

College

Eagle 12/14/74

Pittsfield pizza shop opens Lee branch

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — Pizza devotees here who in the past insisted on driving for 20 minutes to Gerald F. Ely's Piece of Pizza in Pittsfield now need only turn the corner onto Railroad Street.

Ely opened his second shop in the former Country Kitchen restaurant near the Post Office last month, and business has grown so quickly that he is nearly ready to hire an assistant.

The 34-year-old chef, who learned how to bake pizza 15 years ago under the tutelage of a Los Angeles pizza parlor magnate, found the building here in September and decided to open a branch of his North Street shop to attract South County patrons

Ralph E. Brown

LEE PIZZA CHEF Gerald F. Ely tosses an unbaked crust into the air to shape it, in classic pizza-parlor fashion. Ely, who operates one shop in Pittsfield, opened a second one on Railroad Street here last month.

Building empty

With the exception of a stove, which he removed, the building was empty when he moved in. He installed two pizza ovens, a walk-in refrigerator, four tables with chairs and an L-shaped counter, all of which, he estimates, cost nearly $10,000.

One of the pieces furnishing the small shop is a marble slab more than 8-feet long and 2-feet wide. Ely says it cost $2,400, but that the marble provides an excellent surface for working dough.

"And it looks a lot nicer than other countertops, he adds.

Although the interior of the shop no longer resembles the restaurant that used to occupy it, one feature of the exterior does. The Country Kitchen sign is still hanging, but Ely says his sign painter has promised to replace it with a new one shortly.

Re-opening delayed

A native of Pittsfield, Ely opened his first shop near the corner of Dalton Avenue and Harvard Street in Pittsfield, but the small, one-story building was gutted by fire in 1966.

Employed by General Electric Co., at the time, Ely didn't reopen the parlor until 1971, when he moved into a new building he erected — made of concrete blocks — on North Street.

The shop here is the first one he has opened since then; its menu offers five kinds of grinders in addition to nine ingredients topping his pizzas.

Although he purchases the base of his tomato sauce from a supplier, he adds is own combination of spices to it. "And I won't reveal what it is," he says.

Special touches

He does, however, reveal another combination that he says makes the quality of his pizza superior to others.

"I make each crust just before I'm going to bake it — I don't make them ahead of time and store them in the refrigerator — and I put it in the oven without a pan underneath it.

"It means that I've got to clean the oven more often, but you get more flavor than if you put it in a pan," he explains.

The shop is closed on Tuesday, but is open other days from noon to 11:30 p.m. On Fridays and Saturdays it stays open until 1 a.m.

Lee Hardware opens Main Street annex

By Ben Ginsburg

LEE — Bill Derrick and Peter Consolati had figured for awhile that they needed more space for their Lee Hardware store on Main Street.

About the same time they were figuring that, the owners of the Happiness Shop, just across Railroad Street from Lee Hardware went bankrupt.

The result was a vacant store and the Derrick/Consolati desire for more room joining forces.

This week Lee Hardware opened its annex.

"We needed more room so that we could expand and we needed a service department and the opportunity was there," Derrick explained.

The annex will feature all Lee Hardware's electrical items, power tools, lawn mowers, chain saws, tillers, tractors and bicycles.

In addition, the annex will feature a full-service repair department.

The annex will be open the same hours as the rest of Lee Hardware — 7:30 to 5:30, Monday through Saturday.

Richard Consolati will manage the annex.

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE HARDWARE ANNEX owners Bill Derrick (seated at left) and Peter Consolati (standing in rear) and annex manager Richard Consolati (seated at right) check out some of the new equipment that will be featured in the annex. The annex is across Railroad Street from the present Lee Hardware.

5/24/75

Lee man opens TV service

House calls included in offerings

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — Robert A. Wheeler says he can fix any television set, stereo, tape deck, car radio or electronic organ, as long as he can get the parts.

And the 24-year-old Wheeler, who opened Bob's TV Repair in Park Plaza here three weeks ago, says he can make the repairs for less money than most other stores.

"We just try to deal straight with people and fix things at a price they can afford," Wheeler says.

Unique features

Bob's TV features several unique features, which Wheeler hopes will convince people his service is different.

The features include house calls on any piece of equipment, free estimates on equipment brought into the store, the distribution of his home phone number with an invitation to call him at any time, and a special offer to senior citizens of free pickup and delivery of equipment or a 10 per cent discount on parts if he can make the repairs at the person's house.

Wheeler feels that his business is one that will thrive in the present economic bad times. "People want their equipment repaired now, where a few years ago they might have bought a new piece. And when someone gets laid off they want their television running. They don't sit home all day and talk to each other," Wheeler says.

Business booming

As proof of his thesis, Wheeler says business has been booming in his first three weeks of operations.

Bob's TV is actually a family venture because the office manager is Bob's wife of five years Carol. "It's a joint venture. I couldn't do it without her and she sure couldn't do it without me," Bob says.

The couple, married since their 1969 graduation from Lee High School, live on Railroad Street and have a 5-year-old son.

Wheeler gained his electronic expertise courtesy of the U.S. Air Force. "I spent a year and a half going to school for six hours a day. When they tell you to learn or go to jail, you learn," Wheeler explains. He specialized in radar and navigational equipment in the service.

He has subsequently gotten his master technician's license and gained what he calls valuable experience working at Bell Television here.

The Wheelers hope also to eventually sell televisions. "But that takes more capital than we have now," says Mrs. Wheeler with a smile.

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

GI TRAINING is coming in handy for Bob Wheeler, who has opened his own repair shop in Lee. His service specializes in television repair, but he can tackle almost any electronic instrument.

Young Lee shop owner sees market growing

By Ben Ginsberg

LEE — William F. Sheehan III thinks that even in tough economic times people are going to want to repair their homes.

So three weeks ago, the 23-year-old Lenox Dale resident began his fight against the recession and opened Homeowners' Supply in Park Plaza here.

"People aren't going to hire contractors now because they don't have the money. But people are still going to have to fix up their homes," Sheehan said in an interview Thursday.

Products indicated

The name of the store is indicative of its products. Sheehan said the store would stock a variety of home building products including Armstrong floor and ceiling tiles, Johnson and Wencel ceramic tiles, Triangle Pacific kitchen cabinets, Security aluminum storm windows and Colony paint.

Sheehan said he would also install the products he sells.

The store is open Monday through Saturday from 9 to 5:30 and Friday nights until 9:30.

Having his own store has been a lifelong ambition for Sheehan, who graduated last June from Western New England College in Springfield with a bachelor of science degree in business administration. He is also a 1970 graduate of Lenox Memorial High School.

Helped build plaza

"I guess I've always dreamed of owning my own business. That's what I studied in college and what I've always wanted to do," he said.

Sheehan is no stranger to his Park Plaza store. As a summer employe of Lenox builder Richard Piretti he helped build Park Plaza two years ago.

He lives in Lenox Dale, with his wife and 3-month old daughter in a house he built himself.

Ben Ginsberg

FUTURE market in selling to do-it-yourself homeowners prompted William F. Sheehan III to open own business.

Lee family has success formula for business

Whitestone

EVERY DAY is reunion day for the John G. Marchetto family of Lee. They are all working partners in the three family-owned Junior-Teen & Children's Boutique. Gathered at the new Pittsfield store are, left to right, Julie, Carol, Mr. and Mrs. Marchetto, Gail, Marilou and John. The male members of the family handle much of the mechanical work needed in the stores.

Marchettos open third teen shop

John and Rose Marchetto of Lee have developed a formula for success that is the envy of other business people but one few can achieve: raise a family of five children and embue them with an interest in business.

The Marchettos this week opened their third store under the name of Junior, Teen & Children's Boutique. It is located at 127 Elm St., in store space formerly occupied by a photo shop. They opened their first store in Lee in 1969 and branched out with a store in Great Barrington in 1971.

The children, four girls and a boy, range in age from 12 to 21, and all figure in the success the Marchettos have had in their few years in business.

Family affair

Mrs. Marchetto described the growing chain as a "family affair." When she opened the first shop, her husband was employed in Great Barrington by Berkshire Home Gas as an accountant, three of the daughters were in their teens. The girls immediately became advisers particularly on what the teen-age girl might like. Mrs. Marchetto already had a good idea about young children's clothing. The team worked out pretty well. The store ougrew its original space and doubled in size in two years' time. Mr. Marchetto resigned from Home Gas to become a full-time member of the retail staff. He also kept the books and did much of the essential carpentry work needed for all three stores. This year, their son John also got involved, first with the mechanical side and now with the retail side.

The oldest daughter, Julie, is a student at Holy Cross College during the academic year and something parallel to a manager during the summer months. She advises the family on what is current on campus. Carol, Gail and Marilou work the lower ends of the age scale.

Extensive line

Their clothing line goes from infants wear up to long, formal gowns. It includes winter and fall outerwear as well as casual sports and dressy, formal wear.

Mrs. Marchetto said that much of the line of clothing the firm carries in all three stores caters to young adults as well as teens and juniors.

The Marchettos had been studying the Pittsfield potential for some time. The opportunity to move to the city came when a neighbor and fellow Lee businessman, Peter Constantopoulus, purchased the building on Elm Street in Pittsfield and asked if they would like to share space in the building. He is planning to use the other half to open a branch of his Lee Pizza Shop. They agreed to a lease and the family moved in en masse with hammers, nails, paint buckets and ladders.

Buying excursions are a family affair, but with Mrs. Marchetto supplying the expertise. She was a buyer for 10 years for the J. T. Owens store in Lee before going into business for herself.

Sept. 4, 1974

Lee News Room sold

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — Saying that "I want to live like the other guy for a change," George J. McClelland sold for an undisclosed price his Lee News Room on Main Street to the man who, until yesterday, sold him Hallmark greeting cards.

"I've been on this street for 33 years and I've never had a Sunday off," McClelland said as he announced the sale of the shop to Thomas M. Pentland of Three Rivers.

Until today, Pentland, who is 27, was a Hallmark sales representative for Western Massachusetts. A native of Worcester, Pentland plans to move here with his wife and 16-month-old daughter as soon as they sell their house in Three Rivers.

"I was usually too busy to see him when he came in to sell me some cards," McClelland said. "Finally I said, 'Why don't you buy this place?' "

Pentland said that although he hasn't operated a store before, he had been looking for one for a year and a half.

"This place looked good, is good and that's why we decided to come here," Pentland said.

McClelland said he had placed the shop on the market two years ago. "I wasn't that anxious to sell, but it was there," he said, adding that he had had two earlier offers that fell through.

McClelland moved the shop to its present site from a next-door location five years ago, substantially expanding his selling space.

Before opening the shop in 1960, he had worked for his father, Thomas W. McClelland, at McClelland Drug Store on the opposite side of Main Street.

Pentland said he plans to operate the shop "the way George did" for the present, although he is extending weekday hours. Beginning Monday, it will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Weekend hours will remain the same, 6 to 6 on Saturdays and 6 to 1 on Sundays.

McClelland, who will help Pentland operate the store for a short time, said that he has "some ideas but no plans" for the future.

Courier
1-23-75

Harris Photo

Elizabeth Thorne and Dawn Palmer in the Regular Folks Shop, which opened its doors on Center Street this week.

Economy Prompts Opening Of New Business

LEE — "The name means exactly what it says," explained Elizabeth Thorne, co-owner of the town's newest business, The Regular Folks Shop. "The store's for everyday people trying to make a living. People who like to have a decent home and decent furniture, who can't afford to pay $100, but can afford to pay $50 and still have something decent."

Ms. Thorne and Dawn Palmer opened the store, located at 9 Center Street, on Monday. The store features restored used furniture and a few antiques — "items pertaining to any room in the house," Ms. Thorne said. The two owners, who both live on Cape Street, also refinish and upholster furniture, and buy furniture as well as sell it.

Both women were formerly in the restaurant business, and had a common hobby: restoring furniture. Ms. Thorne was employed as a food supervisor at Howard Johnsons while Ms. Palmer was first cook with Holiday Inn.

The store is located in the former quarters of the Bridge Package Store.

Oct 14, 1974

Veteran waitress tries her hand at operating her own restaurant

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — After working in restaurants for more than 20 years, Mrs. Donald S. Williams knows that waitresses have to walk a lot.

So when she designed her new Iron Kettle restaurant, which opened here two weeks ago at the corner of Pleasant Street and Route 102, she planned it with them in mind.

"I've worked in too many places where I've had to run too much," she says. "When things are handy, service is much quicker — and more pleasant."

Minimize steps

She moved into the 2,000-square-foot building owned by Nelson Tacy of Lenox a month ago, and designed the kitchen and service area to minimize the steps needed between cook and customer.

The building, constructed by Tacy a year ago to house a small neighborhood grocery, instead was first occupied by a Springfield-based bulk sales meat firm. It has been vacant since the meat sellers left town 2½ months after they opened.

The kitchen, tucked into a compact 10-foot-by-15-foot area in one corner, immediately adjoins the waitresses' station, stocked with plates, cups, desserts and coffee.

A large window and counter in the wall separating the station from the kitchen permits waitresses to pick up filled plates and soup bowls from the kitchen without juggling trays through swinging doors.

Waitresses can see every table in the restaurant from the station, which is separated from the dining area by a chest-high, counter-topped partition.

Simple menu

Food storage space is kept deliberately small, Mrs. Williams says, "because I like to keep my food fresh by purchasing it almost daily. If I had a walk-in refrigerator, I'd be tempted to keep something longer than I like to."

The dining area, decorated with four-foot-high paneled wainscoting and bright, floral-patterned wallpaper, now seats 80 patrons, she says. Many of those customers are paperworkers at nearby mills in search of a quick lunch consisting of more than a hamburger and french fries.

"Our menu is simple, but it's very good," she says. "We have a kettle of homemade soup simmering on the stove every day, we make our own spaghetti sauce, and our sandwiches are hard to beat."

Customer response to the Iron Kettle — which she characterizes as "a little family place around the corner" — has been brisk during the first two weeks. "We had 132 here the first day we opened and have been averaging 125 a day since then."

And if patronage continues to be anything like it was last weekend, when thousands of foliage-hunting visitors jammed Berkshire roads, "we'll be here for a long time," she says.

Ralph E. Brown

FORMER HOSTESS at the Morgan House, Mrs. Donald S. Williams now cooks family-style lunches and dinners in her new Iron Kettle restaurant. Kitchen and service area are in rear left corner; dining area will seat 80 customers.

NEW RESTAURANT in Lee, the Iron Kettle on Pleasant Street, occupies building built and owned by Nelson Tacy of Dreyfus Realty Trust. Location formerly housed Save-On Meats, a bulk-sales outlet that opened and closed earlier this year.

#225

Lee couple buy Orpheus Ascending

Eagle 6/21/75

STOCKBRIDGE — Orpheus Ascending, restaurant and art gallery on Route 7, has been sold to Achille and Jessie Cibelli of Theresa Terrace in Lee.

The property, which includes about six acres of land with a swimming pool and 10-bedroom main house, was sold Monday for an undisclosed amount.

Stephen Citron of New York City, who bought the property in 1971, sold it. Orpheus Ascending had not been open in recent months.

The property will be renamed Bonnie Bank Inn. If the necessary permits are received from the town, the inn will open by July 4 for lodging and breakfast, Cibelli said. There are no plans to continue the art gallery, he said.

Mrs. Cibelli will manage the inn. Cibelli will continue to operate Scottie's Barber Shop on Main Street in Lee, an establishment he has owned for many years.

A public hearing on the transfer of the establishment's liquor license will be held July 7 at 9 at the Selectmen's office at the Town Hall.

Eagle 6-13-75

Old roof covers new Lee businesses

Ben Ginsberg

SMART NEW quarters for Abdalla's Liquor Mart in Lee were unveiled this week by owner Michael Abdalla, left, and the store's manager, James Shanahan of Great Barrington. The mart got a head start on the building through use of complete roof which had been purchased from an abandoned Pittsfield shop.

LEE — The roof that was once over the Sawyer Fabrics store in Pittsfield is now enjoying a new life as the top of the building Michael Abdalla has built on Canal Street for his liquor/food market and travel agency.

The two enterprises, which opened this week, are Abdalla's Liquor Mart, Inc., and the Town & Country Travel Agency.

The mart carries liquors, wines, convenience foods and discount drugs. It will be open Mondays through Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

It is being managed by James Shanahan of Great Barrington. Glenn Pillings of Stockbridge and David Dignard of Lee are also working in the store.

The travel agency will provide national and international reservations for airplanes, steamships, cruises, hotel reservations, car rentals and railroad reservations. It will be open Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 to 5 and Saturdays from 9 to 1.

Nancy Rathbun of Stockbridge will manage the office and be assisted by Abdalla's 15-year-old daughter, Debby.

The operation is something of a family affair. Ms. Rathbun's eldest son, David, manages Abdalla's Stockbridge market.

Abdalla had the 50-foot by 100-foot roof which adorns his structure hauled down from its old location opposite the Howard Johnson's on South Street in Pittsfield last March.

Adams Super Markets open Lee store

Ralph E. Brown

Mervin Wineberg of Adams (left), president of Adams Super Markets, and Kenneth P. Bissaillon of Pittsfield, manager of the newly opened Lee store.

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — After two weeks of freshening up the Park Street building that for more than 12 years housed the First National grocery store, Adams Super Markets opened its seventh Berkshire County outlet there this morning.

Staffed by 35 full- and part-time workers, more than twice the number employed by First National during its last months here, the new market will be open Mondays through Saturdays from 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Mervin Wineberg, of Adams, president of the chain that will open two more stores in the county within five weeks, said yesterday afternoon that the staff level would be decreased, increased or left unchanged, depending upon the volume of business.

Employe 8 years

Manager of the Lee outlet is Kenneth P. Bissaillon, 25, of Pittsfield, who started working for the chain eight years ago as a bagger and cashier.

A native of North Adams, Bissaillon for the past four years was a manager at the firm's West Street store in Pittsfield.

Richard Jones, meat manager at the Adams store on Williams treet in Pittsfield, will head five-person meat staff at the tore.

berg, noting that he ex- e market here to do million worth of business annually, said that he had been looking for a store in Lee for some time.

"We had our eyes on the Lee Supermarket, but Price Chopper bought it before we were able to," he said.

Based in Albany

Price Chopper, formerly known as Central Markets, is based in Albany, N.Y. That firm bought the Lee market in 1972 from the local corporation that had taken over the former Ram's market on Main Street and had later moved it to the site formerly occupied by the Park Garage, Lee Savings Bank building and a combination home and dental office.

First National ended its operations here Sept. 21 as part of the firm's plan to eliminate small, marginally functioning outlets. It was the fourth company store to close in the county this year.

"We felt that the area was deserving of having two supermarkets in the town," Wineberg said. "When one moved out, we came in."

Adams hired two of the 13 employes put out of work when First National closed. Reports that the firm had offered jobs to all of the employes were misinterpretations of Adams' offers, Wineberg said.

"We said that we would welcome applications for positions from the First National workers — not that we would hire them all," Wineberg said.

Several of the employes transferred to the Lee location are Lee residents who had been assigned to Adams stores outside the town, Wineberg said.

The Adams president said the firm spent some $150,000 to refurbish, re-equip and stock the store. New equipment includes meat-processing and weighing devices and steel racks for refrigeration units, he said.

The firm purchased First National equipment left behind, but is continuing to lease the building from owner Bodine and Pelletier of West Hartford, Conn., owner of the supermarket site.

Becket man to manage Lee plant

LEE — U.S. Fiber Corp., the Ohio-based insulation-manufacturing firm that began operating here this fall, announced last week that it had named John White Jr. of Becket as manager of the Marble Street plant.

White, 31, assumed his duties on a part-time basis in October and began working full time in November. He succeeded Allan Forbes of South Lee, who had resigned.

Before taking the post here, White had been employed two years at Bendix Corp., Abrasives Division, as a kiln worker and a supervisor at the plants in Chester.

He and his wife, the former Jane Hendry of Edinburgh, Scotland, live at Sherwood Forest off Route 20 in Becket.

Lawyer appointed

The firm's Delphos, Ohio, headquarters also said that Jeffrey P. Birkmeier had been named administrative manager for its four manufacturing plants, including the one here.

Berkmeier, an attorney, holds a master's degree in business administration from St. Louis (Mo.) University, the firm said.

U.S. Fiber has plants in Iowa, North Carolina and Ohio in addition to the one here. The firm manufactures residential and industrial insulation from recycled newspapers.

Ralph E. Brow

U.S. FIBER plant manager Alan S. Forbes stands in front of the firm's newly acquired Lee plant on Marble Street. Forbes says operations should begin after July 15. Building is former Bombardier East warehouse.

Lee plant to recycle newspapers

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — U.S. Fiber Corp., the new industry here that plans to manufacture residential and industrial insulation from recycled newspapers, expects to begin operations sometime after July 15, plant manager Alan S. Forbes said yesterday.

Once in operation, the firm will be "after any newspapers we can get our hands on," Forbes said.

He said that plans are under way to make purchase arrangements with area recycling centers and civic groups who stage paper drives.

He also said that individuals will be welcome to bring old newpapers to the plant and sell them, once operations begin there. "We'll take quantities as small as a bushel basket," Forbes said, so long as no cardboard or magazines are included in the bundle.

He said the plant would pay the "Chicago rate," which fluctuates on a day-to-day basis, but is now about $30 a ton.

The firm's decision to move to Lee was announced in February by the Berkshire County Development Commission, which was instrumental in persuading the Ohio-based company to come to the Berkshires.

Forbes, who was born in Pittsfield and graduated from Lee High School in 1958, said yesterday that problems in machinery delivery could delay the start of production beyond the July target date.

The manufacturing equipment is being shipped from a plant in Indiana, Forbes said.

Once in operation, the plant will have the capacity to manufacture 400 20-pound bags of fire-retardant cellulose insulation per hour.

Sold under the trade name of Acutec, the insulation is made primarily from defibered wood pulp and newspapers, which are treated with fire-proofing chemicals and coloring.

The resulting loose, grainy material is then either poured into wall cavities or mixed with an adhesive and sprayed on walls and the underside of roofs.

Donald Mudgett, manufacturing manager for the firm's Delphos, Ohio, headquarters, says that the Lee plant will employ approximately 40 persons "in the near future."

Mudgett expects that 12 to 15 persons will be hired initially, but that the work force will be expanded as operations increase. The firm plans to hire local workers.

* * * *

U.S. Fiber has three other plants, in Delphos, Jonesville, S.C., and Okaloosa, Iowa. The Lee plant is expected to distribute its products to dealers and contractors in New England, Maryland, New Jersey, Delaware and most of New York and Pennsylvania.

The firm has signed a 10-year lease for the former Bombardier East warehouse on Marble Street. It is installing a new 6-inch water main to feed a sprinkler system required for storage of newspaper.

Dust from newspaper recycling plant draws complaints from Lee residents

Eagle, 10-16-74

By Ralph E. Brown

LEE — U.S. Fiber Corp., whose new plant on Marble Street here manufactures home and industrial insulation from recycled newspapers, last night was ordered to complete installation of an air-filtration system by Monday, or suspend operations until installation has been completed.

The Selectmen issued the order at the request of Marble Street residents, who complained that dust from the plant was clogging window screens and dirtying laundry. The action gives the firm five days to finish a project the company said initially would be completed in two weeks.

* * * *

The Ohio-based firm has been installing equipment at the building at the corner of Marble and West Park streets since June, but only began manufacturing operations 10 days ago.

The filtration system, which removes dust-sized particles of newsprint and of two salts added to the paper during the conversion process, from air exhausted through roof vents, had not been completed when manufacturing began.

Don Mudgett, manufacturing manager for the firm, told the Selectmen that all components of the system had been delivered to the plant and were in the process of being installed.

* * * *

Manufacturing operations began before installation was finished to speed product orders to New England-based customers and to keep the plant's 20 employes working, Mudgett said.

Henry J. Salice, a resident of Marble Street, charged that the firm had not obtained local and state permits required before plant operations could legally begin.

Salice said that approval of the filtration system had to be obtained from the Pioneer Valley Air Pollution Control District before the firm could expell air from the plant into the environment.

Mudgett said that he had been led to believe that no permits were necessary, but would take steps shortly to obtain them.

Ralph E. Brown

Don Mudgett: filters installed by Monday.

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20 —The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1974

Lee plant shut down until air filters are installed

LEE — U.S. Fiber Corp., which a week ago was told to complete installation of an air-filtration system by yesterday or suspend operations until it did so, shut its Marble Street plant down Sunday night because work on the system had not been finished.

But John White, plant manager for the Ohio-based firm that manufactures home and industrial insulation from recycled newspapers, said this morning that he expects installation of the air filters to be completed within 24 hours. The plant will resume operations when that occurs, he said.

"We just didn't have enough time to finish the work," said White, adding that plant machinery was turned off at approximately 6 p.m. Sunday.

"The bulk of the job is done, but we've got some electrical work and a few other minor areas yet to be completed," White said.

Residents complained

The order to finish installation or shut down was issued by the Selectmen last Tuesday after Marble Street residents complained that dust from the plant was clogging window screens and dirtying laundry hung on outdoor clotheslines.

The filtration system removes dust-sized particles of newsprint and of two salts added to the paper during the conversion process from air exhausted through roof vents. It had not been completed when manufacturing began at the plant 2½ weeks ago.

Don Mudgett, manufacturing manager for the firm, told the Selectmen last week that manufacturing operations began before the filter system was finished to speed product orders to New England-based customers and to keep the plant's 20 employes working.

No layoffs

But White said this morning that none of the workers were laid off when the shutdown took effect.

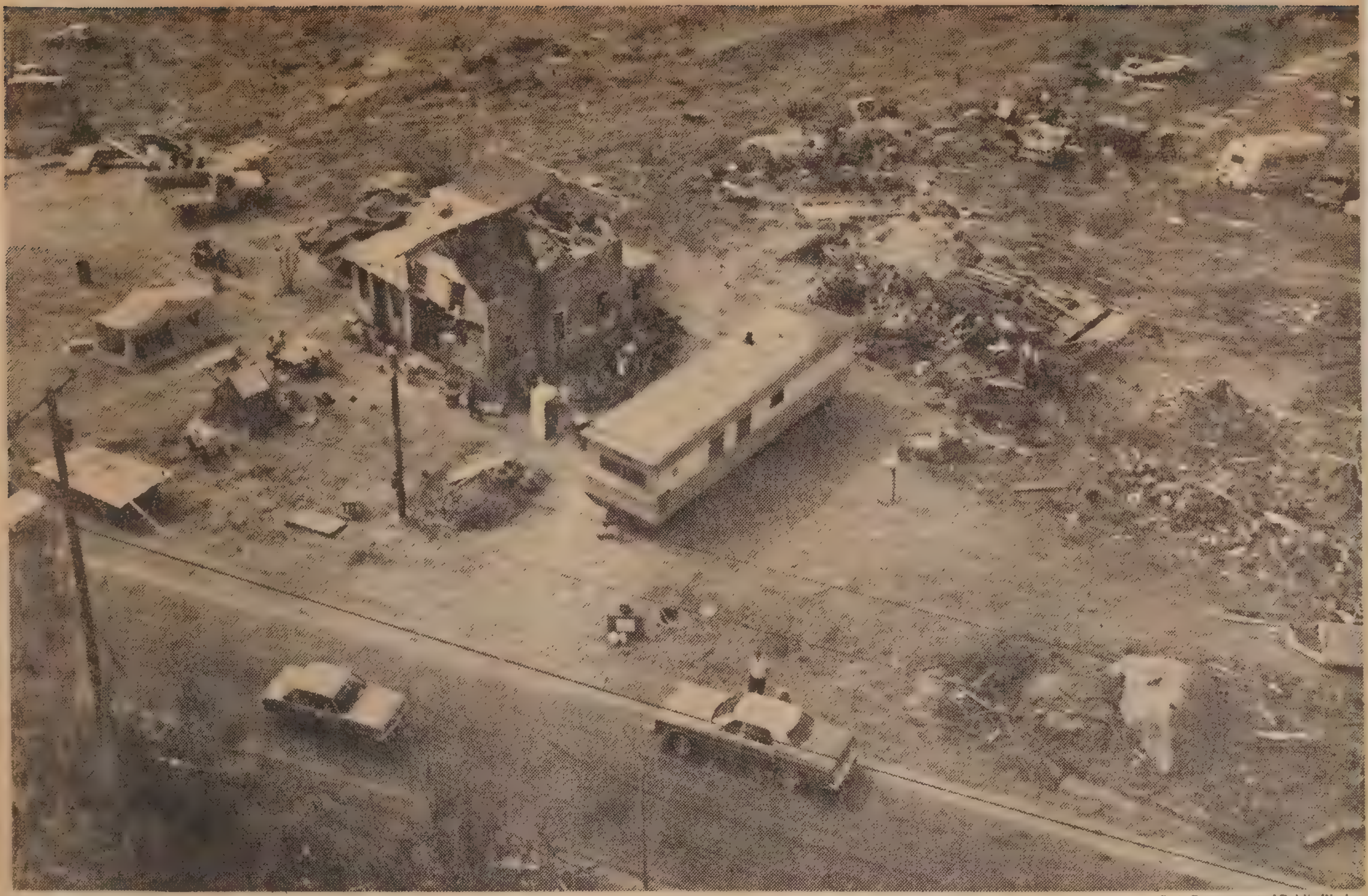
"We've shortened the hours a bit and staggered them, but all the men are continuing to work," White said. Employes have been assigned to tasks "in areas other than production," he added.

White said that firm representatives had contacted officials of the Pioneer Valley Air Pollution Control District to inspect and approve the air filters once installation is completed.

In a letter received by the Selectmen last night, the town Board of Health reported that it had inspected the plant last week and found that installation had not been completed.

Pioneer Valley district officials have agreed to inspect the plant when installation is finished, town health officials added.

Eagle - Sept. 11 73



State Department of Public Works

HOUSE WRECKED by Aug. 28 tornado in West Stockbridge has been vacated by the Kie family. They have moved into tents and a mobile home at their property off West Center Road. At right center are hay-covered ruins of the Kie family's barn.

Helen Donovan

BERKSHIRE TRUCK PLAZA owner Col H. George Wilde of Lee has brought in temporary quarters for a restaurant (at left), scheduled to open early next week, and business office (at right) until a permanent building to house both can be built on the site of the structure destroyed by the Aug. 28 tornado

Tornado-ruined truck plaza sets up temporary buildings

WEST STOCKBRIDGE — A "modular home" scheduled for use as temporary quarters for the Berkshire Truck Plaza is going up at the Route 102 site, and is expected to open for business early next week.

A supervisor at the site today said he didn't know precisely when work on the 1,000-square-foot building would be completed, but that he hoped the restaurant could be opened near the beginning of the week.

The building is to house the restaurant operation until a permanent restaurant and motel, destroyed in the Aug. 28 tornado, can be rebuilt on the site of the former building. The owner of the complex, Col. H. George Wilde of Lee, has also brought in a house trailer for use as temporary office quarters.

Count on trucks

Meanwhile, plans are being made in Stockbridge for a 48-hour, around-the-clock recording of truck traffic passing through that town.

Sarah H. Begley of Yale Hill Road, coordinator of the effort, has said that the study is intended in part to determine whether east-west traffic in Stockbridge has declined since the destruction of the truck plaza in West Stockbridge.

Main Street merchants and residents of both towns have said that traffic has dropped off considerably since the tornado.

Ms. Begley said that, as plans currently stand, volunteers will begin counting trucks on Routes 7 and 102 in Stockbridge Sunday. [illegible]

60-mph winds, rain damage buildings, trees, crops

[illegible]

Warren Fowler

WINDSTORM passing up Route 7 in western Lee yesterday at about 7:15 a.m. left this debris on Summer Street just east of Route 7. Wind was blowing northward, which would be from right to left in this photo. High Lawn Farm property is at left; Foxhollow at right. Other photos are on Page 9 and 15.

Sixty-mile-an-hour winds and a freshet of rainstorms in the Central Berkshire area yesterday destroyed three outbuildings, toppled trees and crops, lifted a police cruiser onto two wheels and left three inches of rain.

But despite patterns of damage found in Lee and Dalton, the two towns apparently hardest by the winds, weathermen aren't certain whether a tornado was here or not.

"What we know is that there was a series of individual thunderstorm cells along a north-south squall line," Berkshire weatherman George J. Bulgarelli said today. "But the tops of those storms weren't high enough to support tornado formation.

"That doesn't mean that we did not have a tornado. It does mean that there's a question whether we had one or not," Bulgarelli said.

The windstorm — which caused no personal injuries — struck the Lee and Lenox area about 7 a.m., apparently sweeping up from the Rattlesnake Mountain area of Stockbridge, according to the state police.

Troopers said the storm appeared to have tornado-like qualities, although they had not encountered anyone who saw a funnel cloud.

After leaving Stockbridge, the path of the storm took it north along Route 7 in western Lee at High Lawn Farm, owned by Col. H. George Wilde. It demolished a garage at the Emery Bachelder home on the farm on Route 7, just south of the Summer Street intersection.

Bachelder said his garage was lifted and thrown approximately 45 feet away from its foundation, but the car inside it was untouched. "I slept through the whole thing," he said.

In Dalton the wind struck first on Washington Mountain Road where it demolished an old wooden barn on the former Henry Wehry property. Portions of the roof were blown onto the road where a large limb from a nearby elm also knocked down utility wires causing a power outage.

A large willow was uprooted in the rear of the Charles Wendling home at 177 East Housatonic St., Dalton, smashing into a one-car garage. The garage was apparently demolished but a dune buggy parked inside appeared intact.

Mrs. Wendling said the force of the wind blew open the front door of her home drenching the living room and blowing pictures off the wall. She also described the sound as that of a "train roaring through."

Trees uprooted by the winds knocked down trees on Rattlesnake Mountain Road in Stockbridge, closing the road until early today. A large tree behind Proc ter Hall on West Main Street was als blown down.

Bulgarelli said that dry soil and heav rains were as much a cause of topple trees as heavy winds. Soil surroundin tree roots had become loose because little rainfall during recent weeks; quic heavy rains loosened it even more, explained.

In Pittsfield, little major damage wa reported, although flooding along th banks of the Housatonic River force cancellation of the Clyde Beatty-Co Bros. Circus performances scheduled f yesterday at Wahconah Park. (Stor Page 1, Second Section.)

In Lenox, extensive damage was do to the grounds of Foxhollow Scho

Wind, rain cause damage
Continued on Page 15

Heavy rains bring warning of flash floods

Heavy weekend rains coupled with prospects for showers and gusty winds today and tomorrow have prompted the U.S. Weather Service to issue a flash-flood watch for Western Massachusetts and Connecticut.

The watch went into effect today and will continue through tonight, a spokesman for the weather service in Boston said this morning. Sunday's storm already has forced area rivers and streams over banks in some areas.

Berkshire weatherman George J. Bulgarelli today forecast scattered showers and thunderstorms tonight and tomorrow with continued warm, humid weather.

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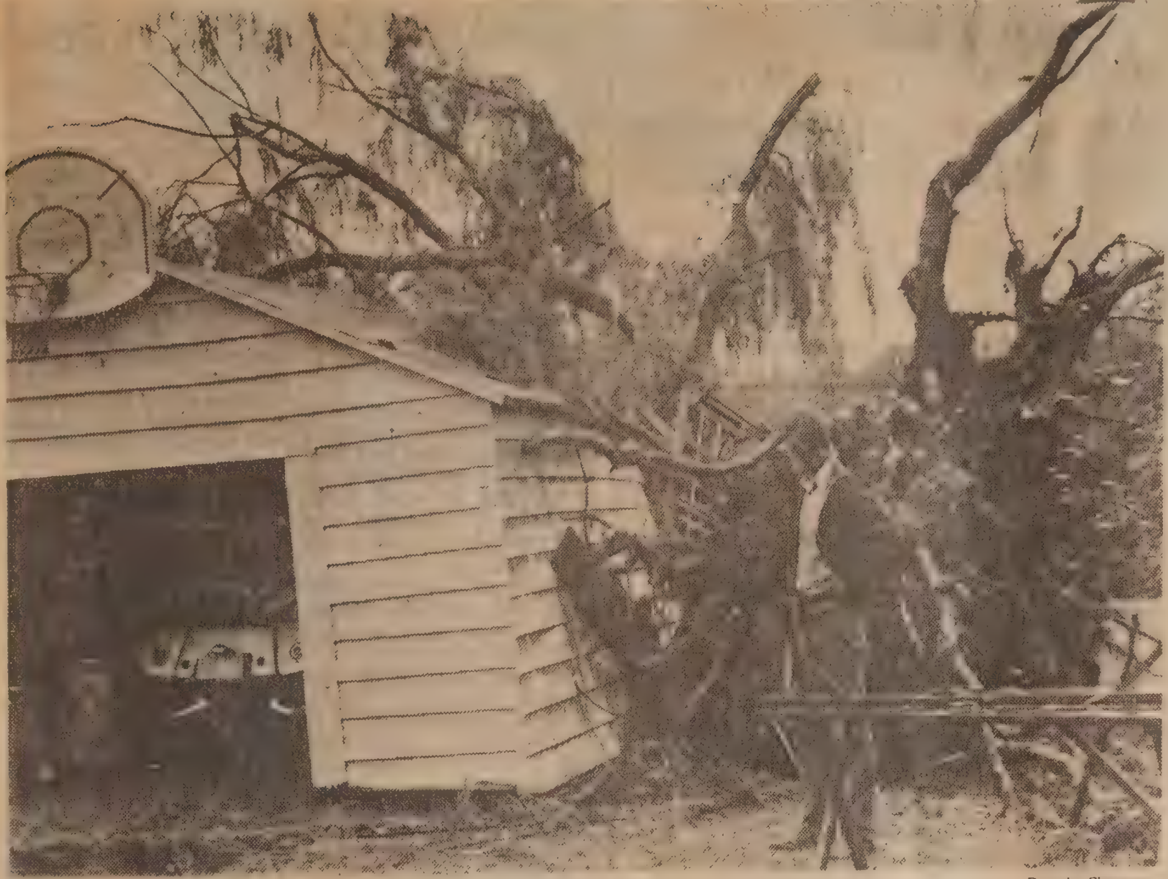


Dorothy Chapman

HIGH WIND IN DALTON yesterday blew this weeping willow onto the garage at the rear of the Charles Wendling home at 177 East Housatonic St. Here Robert Wendling inspects the damage. A dune buggy parked in garage apparently escaped unscathed. Note the crumpled remains of a chaise longue blown between the tree and the garage in the center of the photo. Most storm damage was confined to uprooted trees

Wind and rain cause heavy damage

Continued from Page 1

where Thomas P. Ryan said this morning that "a couple of weeks worth of work" will be necessary to clean up debris.

Ryan said that the rumbling wind — "the most incredible noise I've ever heard" — lasted about one minute as the storm passed within 200 feet of the historic Main House on the school campus. Power to the school was out from 7 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Ryan said.

To the northeast, at Cranwell School, additional trees were downed or badly damaged by the storm, but officials there this morning would not discuss details of the damage. It could not be learned whether any of the buildings on Cranwell's 400-acre campus had been damaged.

And further to the north, the winds tossed a cast-iron outdoor grill from its location next to a house on the north side of Walker Street. The street was closed by downed trees.

North Adams police reported flooding to a depth of two to three feet on a few city streets. The flooding lasted an hour or two after the rains ended, until city work crews were able to clear clogged storm drains.

High winds and heavy rains had no serious impact on homes and property in towns south of Stockbridge.

In Alford, Route 71 was closed at the New York State border for a period of three hours when the Green River overflowed its banks. In Egremont, according to Massachusetts Electric Co. district superintendent Herbert Race, the only storm-related power outage occurred along Avenue Road near Jug End. Some 21 homes were without power for a brief period after power lines were damaged by wind-tossed branches.

Dalton policeman George R. Wendling said that a "huge black wall" appeared in front of his cruiser yesterday morning. The force of the wind lifted the car up onto its two right wheels, Wendling said.

On Route 8 towards Hinsdale, Dalton crews were on duty where a tree fell across the road and knocked power out to that town. Fire Chief Robert F. Kirchner, said a limb fell across the three primary electric wires just about the section of town known as Cottontown.

He said the hot wires were "arcing and sparking" before the power was shut off. Other hot wires were reported on the corner of Orchard Road and Broadview Terrace and on Washington Mountain Road.

Hinsdale Police Chief Ralph B. Marshall said no major damage was reported there. He said heavy winds were noted about 7:30 and some gardens were damaged as well as scattered power outages reported.

Scattered reports of minor damage of broken windows, shingles blown off roofs and mangled lawn and play equipment were common along the path of the storm.

Information from Massachusetts Electric Co. places the time of passage through Lenox between 7 and 7:20. Race, said this morning that power to 575 Lenox customers was cut at that time and remained out for an average of 1.7 hours.

The affected areas included Laurel Lake Road, Plunkett Street and Lenox Center, which went out when the storm reached a utility right of way on the east side of town near the Housatonic River.

Later in the day, 1,400 Western Massachusetts Electric Co. customers in the southwest section of Lee were without power for about 30 minutes. A Western Mass. spokesman said this morning that the outage, between 4:30 and 5, might have been caused by a falling limb.

State policemen said they assisted local police and highway department crews in clearing debris from Route 7, Summer Street in Lee, and Plunkett Street and Old Stockbridge Road in Lenox.

Trooper Charles N. Appleton of the Lee barracks said the storm appeared to leave a path of damage about 75 feet wide, and flattened High Lawn corn growing in its path.

Rain at the time was falling so heavily it soaked the people caught out in it—"just like taking a shower"—despite the slickers and raingear they wore, Appleton said.

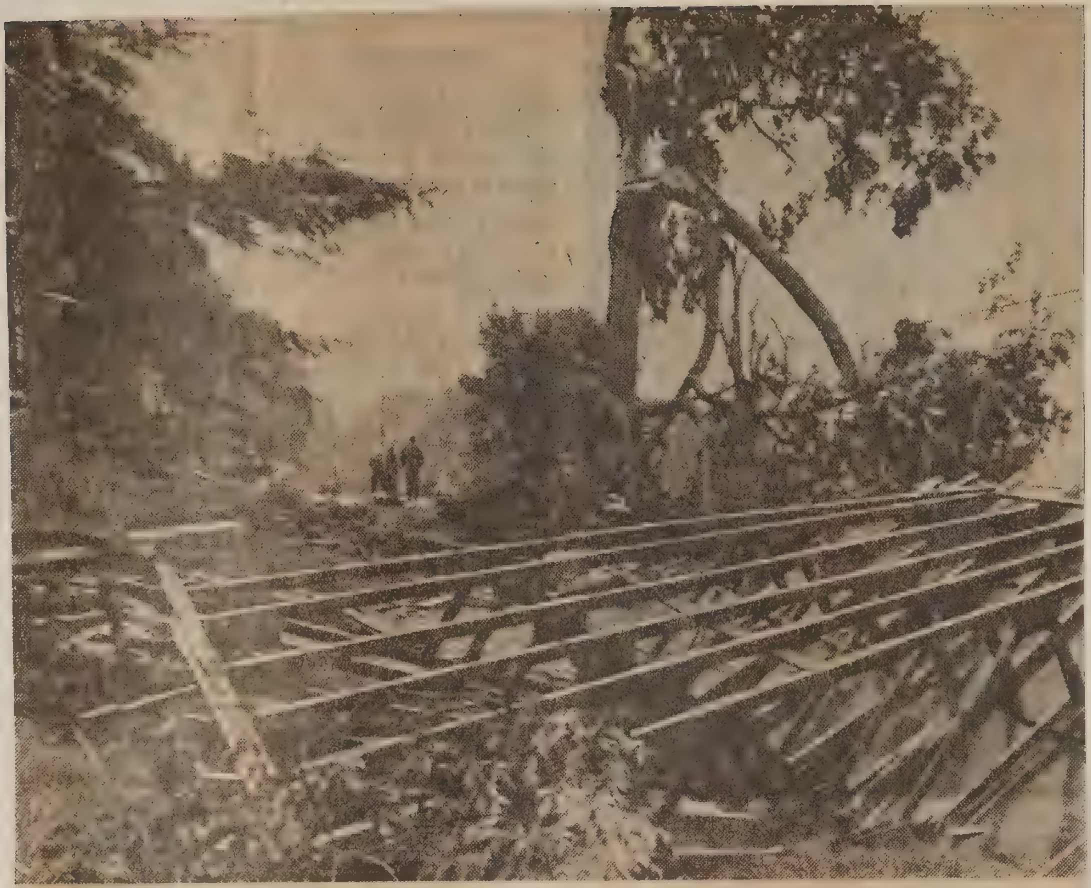
Pittsfield Civil Defense director William H. Cooney said today that CD volunteers manned radios and collected observations of damage throughout the county. No funnel-shaped tornado formations were sighted, Cooney said.

Officials of the U.S. Weather Service in Boston said that damage in the Lee-Lenox-Stockbridge area could have been caused by a "mini-tornado" but that no funnel sightings were reported.

The Weather Service issued a flash-flood watch-warning for Western Massachusetts and Connecticut through tonight.

A total of 3.59 inches fell from 7 a.m. Friday to 7 a.m. today, Bulgarelli reported, with all but half an inch falling during the storm yesterday.

Prospects of continued rain yesterday afternoon apparently dampened the spirits of potential Tanglewood-goers. Attendance there was 6,406, compared to 10,939 for the second Sunday performance last year.



Warren Fowler

GARAGE ROOF lies upside down about 150 feet north of foundation (men are standing on it) after building was destroyed by high winds yesterday morning at about 7:15. Garage is on High Lawn Farm property on west side of Route 7 in Lee. House at left is home of Emery Bachelder Jr. and family. Story appears on Page 1.

Diamonds are a girl's...

... place to shine in Lee baseball farm league

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — Chris Comalli is 11 years old, has a shag haircut and sold more Girl Scout cookies than anyone else in town this year. She also struck out six batters in two innings the last time she pitched and has five hits in eight at-bats for her Lee Hardware team in the farm-team division of the Lee Little League.

Mary Beth DeVoy is 12 years old, has big brown eyes, wears her red hair in pigtails, loves horseback riding and is batting .350 as the starting catcher for her 5 & 10 team. She also plays third base.

Erin O'Leary and Chris Thomas are, in the words of Toole Real Estate coach Bob DuPont, "two of the best players we've got." Ms. O'Leary has six hits in 12 at-bats and Ms. Thomas is 6 for 11.

The all-female starting outfield for Lee Hardware, which consists of Ms. Comalli when she is not pitching or playing third base, 10-year-old Elaine Daley, 12-year-old Daryl Wheeler and 11-year-old Caroline Nichols, has a combined batting average of .333.

* * * *

It's with vital statistics such as these that girls have this season invaded the formerly all-male bastion of Lee Little League baseball.

Eight girls are playing this year, in what they and their parents say is partial realization on the part of league officials that 8 to 12-year-old females can compete with their male counterparts.

The girls and their parents say "partial realization" because none of the girls made the major Little League teams and were instead assigned to the farm teams. League officials instituted a rule this year that any player had to play at least a year on a farm team before he or she could play on a Little League team.

"A couple of the girls should have made Little League teams," says farm-league commissioner Nelson Daley. "I guess none of the coaches up there wanted to be the first to pick a girl. A couple of the girls could have done well there."

Mary Beth agrees. "The law saying girls should be allowed to play in Little League was passed three years ago. If Lee hadn't been so stingy I could be playing Little League now," she says.

"We thought the law about having to play for a year on the farm team was grossly unfair," Mary Beth's mother, Mrs. Robert W. DeVoy, said. "It seemed the law was as much to give the boys a chance to get used to the idea of playing with girls as anything else."

* * * *

Some of the girls say they are bothered by this. But all in all the girls say they are glad to be playing somewhere. Once the season started, they say, the question of whether sex determines athletic prowess was settled.

"Some boys said some things before the first game, but now the boys on my team think I'm pretty good. I'm better than some of the boys and not as good as others," says Sherri Borsotti, a 12-year-old second baseman and pitcher for Warner Cable, who is hitting .340.

"Now they treat me just like a boy," says Sherri with a triumphant grin.

Perhaps the biggest adjustments have had to come on the part of coaches. Says Bob Gleason, coach for Lee Hardware, "I'm 42-years-old. This has been a real switch for me. How many teams have a girl catcher, especially one who can throw out people trying to steal second base?"

All the girls say they truly enjoy baseball — and tell many of the same stories of their skills that their brothers might tell.

Says Mary Beth, "I really like playing catcher, it's my favorite because you get more chances to show what you can do. You can throw people out trying to steal and you can show you're not afraid of the ball."

Caroline, 11 years old and 5-feet tall, smiles shyly when she talks of her exploits as a pitcher. "When I struck out two guys, I was really happy," she says.

"She really throws at them and tries to hit them because she hates them," says teammate Elaine Daley, as Ms. Nichol's strongly denies the charge and giggles, her freckles scrunching into a look of protest.

Elaine tells the tale of dealing with her older brother's comments during her first times at bat this season.

"When I got a hit he said my swing was good. But when I struck out he kept telling me my swing was terrible," the 10-year-old daughter of the league's commissioner said.

* * * *

Assessing the first season of coed baseball, commissioner Daley said, "at first it was kind of hard to get the guys used to playing with the girls. But since the games actually started, it's been good."

William Bourden, coach of the Lee Hardware team, says of the girls, "They're better than the boys a year younger. But the boys the same ages are generally better, basically because they've played in a league a year longer."

But the advent of female participation has brought some changes that have never occurred before and, in all likelihood, will take a lot more getting used to.

As Bourden explains, "One Saturday I lost three-fourths of my outfield. The Girl Scouts went on an overnight camping trip."

Caroline Nichols
Struck out two guys

Elaine Daley
Swing was good

Chris Comalli
Five hits in eight at-bats

#234

[illegible]

Photos by Benjamin L. Ginsberg

SAFE AT THIRD is Erin O'Leary while Mary Beth DeVoy waits in vain for the throw from the plate. Play was on a passed ball in the Lee Little League farm division.

The Berkshire Eagle - Wed. March 13, 1968

Diaries, Clips Tell of Blizzard of 80 Years Ago

By THELMA WHITING

CUMMINGTON — Eighty years ago, in 1888, the Eastern United States was buffeted by the greatest blizzard in area history. The storm, starting March 12, deposited four to five feet of snow, which gale force winds piled into drifts 15 to 20 feet high before it had ended March 15.

According to newspaper clippings in 1958, when the 70th anniversary was noted, there was a lively dispute about whether the mighty blizzard actually started on the 11th or the 12th of March.

Eagle Report

The Eagle of March 15, 1888, says: "In this locality, the storm had a foretaste Sunday, and at evening a biting wind and blinding snow made locomotion next to impossible and there were predictions then that we hadn't seen the worst of it."

A diary quoted in a clipping in 1958 related: "March 11—Snowed a little. March 12—Snowed and blew heavily, the worst storm of the year."

The late Edward Shaw of West Cummington, who lived in Windsor in 1888, writing in 1938 said that his ground floor windows and doors were buried in snow. He recalled going to his grandfather's house March 16 and entering the house through an upstairs window. When he got downstairs, he found his grandparents eating breakfast by candlelight. He also remembered that it took several men two days to open one mile of road from his house in Windsor down to Route 9. After several days, mail was brought from Windsor to East Windsor by written in a diary by Lafayette Stevens, who lived in the Stevensville section of Worthington. This excerpt from the diary was published in a history of Worthington written by Miss Elsie Bartlett. The stage referred to was the mail vehicle driven from Williamsburg to Worthington Corners.

"Sunday, March 11—Oren Streeter died today at age 74.

"Monday, March 12—Blizzard started. Snowed two feet and drifted badly. The stage went to Williamsburg but didn't return.

"Tuesday, March 13—Snowed and blew all day and no one hand sled, he said.

Mrs. Frank Steele of Cummington recalls the story of Lincoln Stone, who was on his way home March 12 with a team of horses and a sled loaded with grain. It snowed so hard and the northwest wind blew such a gale that he had no idea where he was or how to get home.

Horses Head Home

He unhitched his horses and left his load of grain where it was. Then, riding one horse and leading the other, he let the horses take him home. Days afterward, when they located the abandoned load of grain, it was not even on a road but in a field about two miles from his farm on Cummington Hill.

The following account was went through Stevensville. The Stevens men carried dinner to their own mill a few feet from home and could hardly get there.

"Wednesday, March 14—Mr. Streeter's funeral was to be today. All the Stevens men and a yoke of oxen finally got to the Streeter home but had to abandon their sled because the oxen couldn't get it home.

"Thursday, March 15—Four men managed to get through to Stevensville from Chesterfield today, but no further. Still no one has passed through Stevensville.

"Friday, March 16—John Burr came with mail on horseback. First mail since Saturday and first team through to Worthington since Sunday.

"Saturday, March 17—Three mails today.

"Sunday, March 18—Oren Streeter's funeral was held today but no women attended the funeral except the widow. He had been dead eight days."

Report in Doll's Head

Mrs. Frank Steele discovered one account of the blizzard in the head of a china doll she was repairing in her business collecting antique miniatures and toys. The record was written on the back of a page from a calendar and tucked into the head of the doll, which the unidentified writer had been dressing for a child at the time the blizzard occurred. The record, reproduced on this page, ends with the observation that the storm "will make history."

Indeed it did.

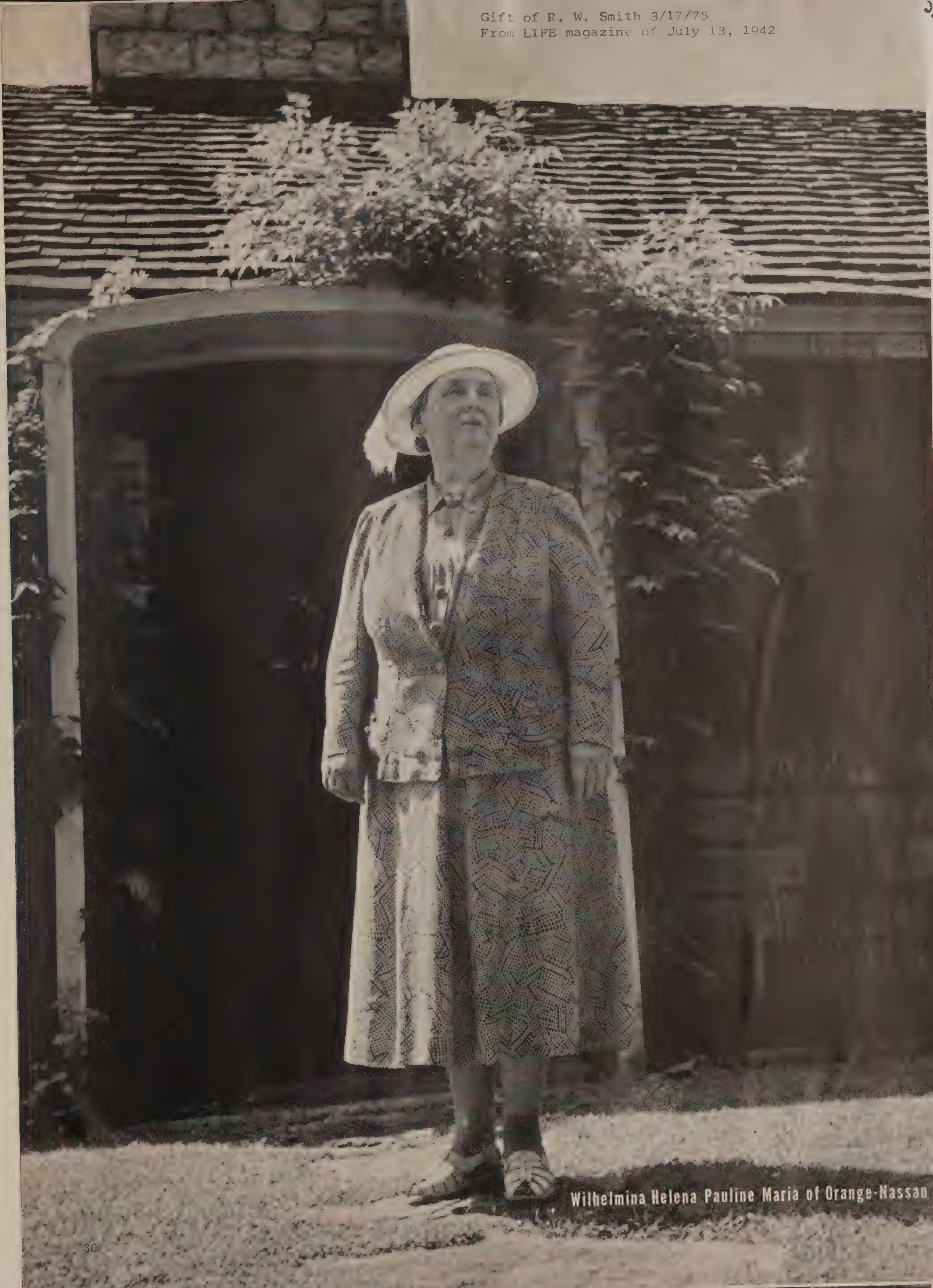
Account of '88 Blizzard Found in Head of a Doll

"Peru, Mass. March 19, 1888 (Monday)—Am putting little Margie's doll together today. Haven't been out of the house since Sunday, March 11, because of a terrible snowstorm which started Monday, March 12. Snowed continually for three days accompanied by a gale which piled the snow 15 to 20 feet deep in places. It is estimated that between four and five feet of snow fell in the storm. No women attempted to go to church yesterday (Sunday, March 18) and only seven men attended, including the parson. The mail went out last Monday as usual but failed to return and there was no more mail until Saturday.

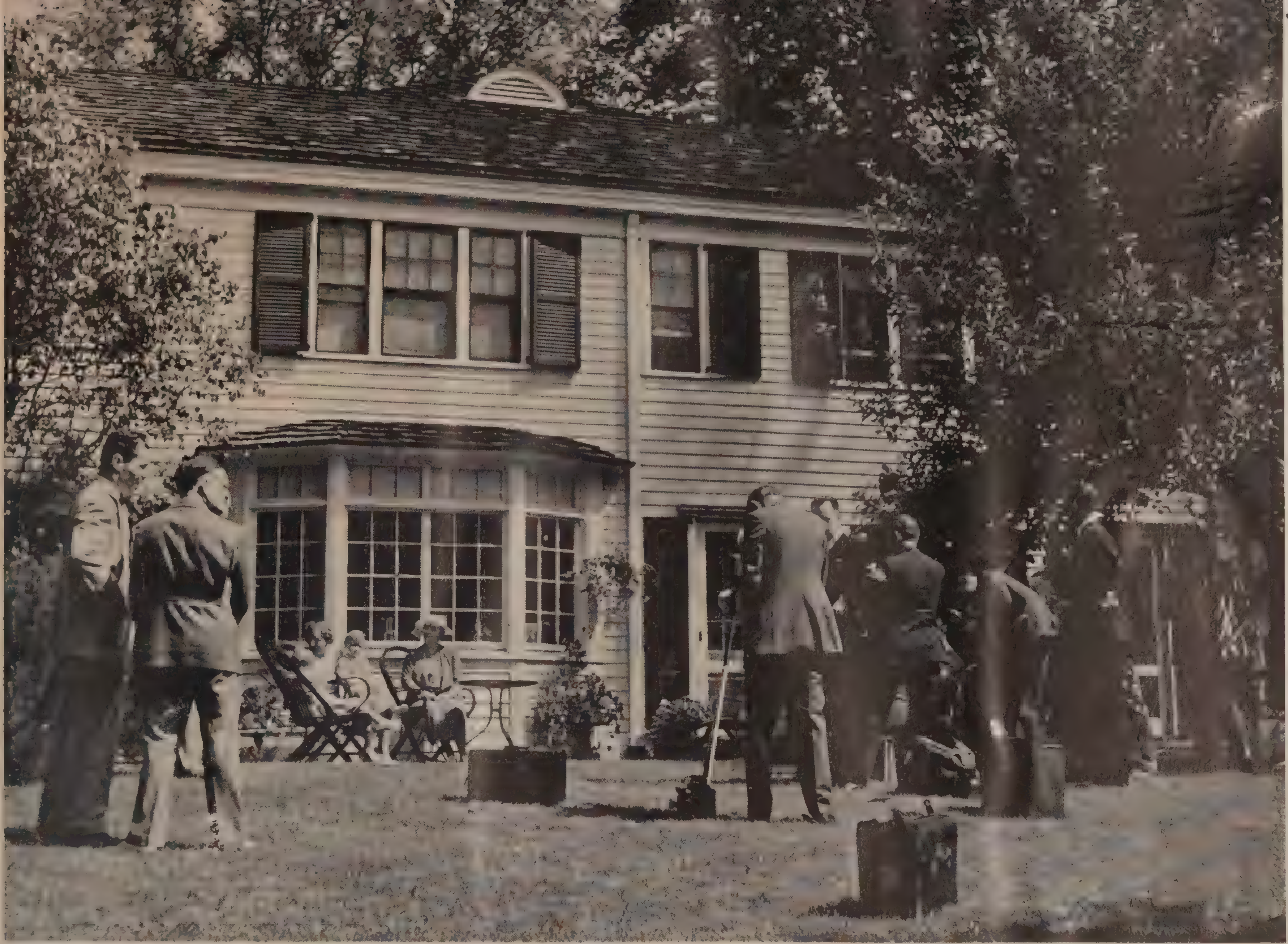
Tuesday afternoon, March 13, my husband took food with him to the barn to last him a couple of days because he had sheep due to lamb and must be with them or lose them and it was with difficulty that he reached the barn. He never returned until Thursday noon. During this time, his brother and our two sons, with two yokes of oxen, were working to open the road to Worthington but didn't meet the Worthington gang until late in the day, Friday.

Saturday the mail went out and a week's accumulation returned. This has been a storm which will make history."

Gift of R. W. Smith 3/17/75
From LIFE magazine of July 13, 1942



Wilhelmina Helena Pauline Maria of Orange-Nassau



Photographers pose the royal family on the terrace outside the rambling colonial house. From left to right sit Beatrix, 4; Crown Princess Juliana; Irene, 3; and Queen Wilhelmina. Juliana persuades her daughters to grin shyly for the cameras. The children had not seen their grandmother for two years, before her arrival in Ottawa by plane three weeks ago.

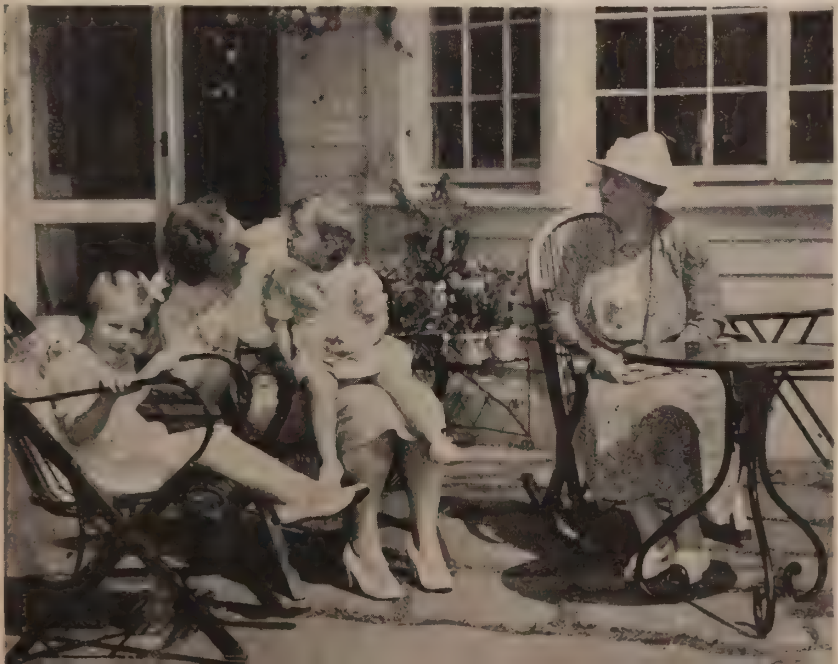
WILHELMINA

Queen of the Netherlands spends a country summer in Massachusetts

Wilhelmina, 61-year-old monarch of the Netherlands, arrived at Lee, Mass. last week to pass the holidays with her daughter, Crown Princess Juliana, and her two little granddaughters, Beatrix and Irene. Far from her Holland and her Empire, both now desolated by war and in the hands of the enemy, she settled herself in the 5-room Cape Cod guest cottage on a 42-acre summer estate leased by the royal family amid the rolling Berkshires. Juliana and the plump, blonde princesses moved with several ladies in waiting, secretaries and various aides into the large main house nearby.

Morning after her arrival, Wilhelmina drove to town with her maid and chauffeur to shop. At a furniture store she bought some linoleum to keep her granddaughters from splashing on the bathroom floor. Then to Frank Pease, Lee druggist who greeted her with "Good morning, Queen," she explained, "I am old-fashioned; everybody uses a washcloth but I like a sponge for my bath." Reported Druggist Pease later, "Lucky I had one. Nobody else buys them but old Charlie Hollister."

Juliana, who is less formal than her mother, wears a cotton dress and no stockings. Here Juliana is enjoying a private joke with curly-headed Irene, while Beatrix soberly surveys the photographers.



In this guest cottage lives the Queen, taking her meals with the others in the main house. A powerful, short-wave radio set has been installed in the cottage living room.

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EAGle Feb. 28. 1975

Rebuilding shattered dreams

Kirk Scharfenberg

Margaret Rector at home with golden retriever, Cassie, and seal point Siamese, Brigette.

By Kirk Scharfenberg

TYRINGHAM

After more than 20 years in the New York area, Knight and Margaret Rector decided by the fall of 1973 to flee the megalopolis, to move to the Berkshires, to begin a new and more satisfying way of and, she says, satisfying life. Three evenings a week she plays dinner music at the Red Lion Inn in Stockbridge. Two days a week she teaches a course at Berkshire Community College on the history of music, a course that begins in the 16th century and traces music up through the jazz and electronic rock of the 20th century.

In addition, she is taking two credit courses at BCC—conversational French and psychology — and is enrolled at the University Without Walls at UMass. Further, as time permits, she is giving private piano lessons.

* * * *

"I had to do it on my own," she said. "I had to initiate everything. It wasn't a case of opening up The Berkshire Eagle and finding a "help-wanted ad" for a pianist at the Red Lion Inn."

But do it, she did. She started playing at the Red Lion three days after she arrived here. "I remember," she said, "I couldn't even find a pair of shoes to wear into the place."

She hadn't performed publicly for more than 20 years and admits that "I was frightened. People in that kind of ambiance are going to ask you to play certain things and I wasn't sure I'd know them."

"I owe a great debt to Jane Fitzpatrick (who with her husband, John, owns the Red Lion)," Mrs. Rector said. "She hired me at a risk. She hadn't even heard me play."

From the Red Lion job, one thing led to another, gradually filling out her new life. "The important thing to learn," she said, "is that when something traumatic happens, your life does not necessarily end there. But it is a very frightening experience. In the beginning, I didn't know if I could make it."

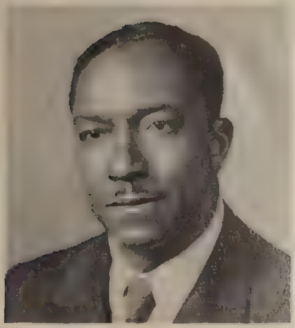
Mrs. Rector said she was aided by the fact that she had pursued a career as a music teacher — with a single two-year interruption at her daughter's birth — since the time she came East to the Juillard School of Music upon her graduation from high school in Fort Wayne, Ind.

"It is very frightening for a woman who is past 40 to be in a situation of a new area, a new job and new friends," she said. "But I have always been independent and I always pursued these seperate identities and that, perhaps, made it easier — although it didn't make the emotional adjustment any easier."

But that adjustment has apparently come with the passing months, and Peggy Rector is looking forward to broadening her activites even further, starting with the planting of a garden this spring.

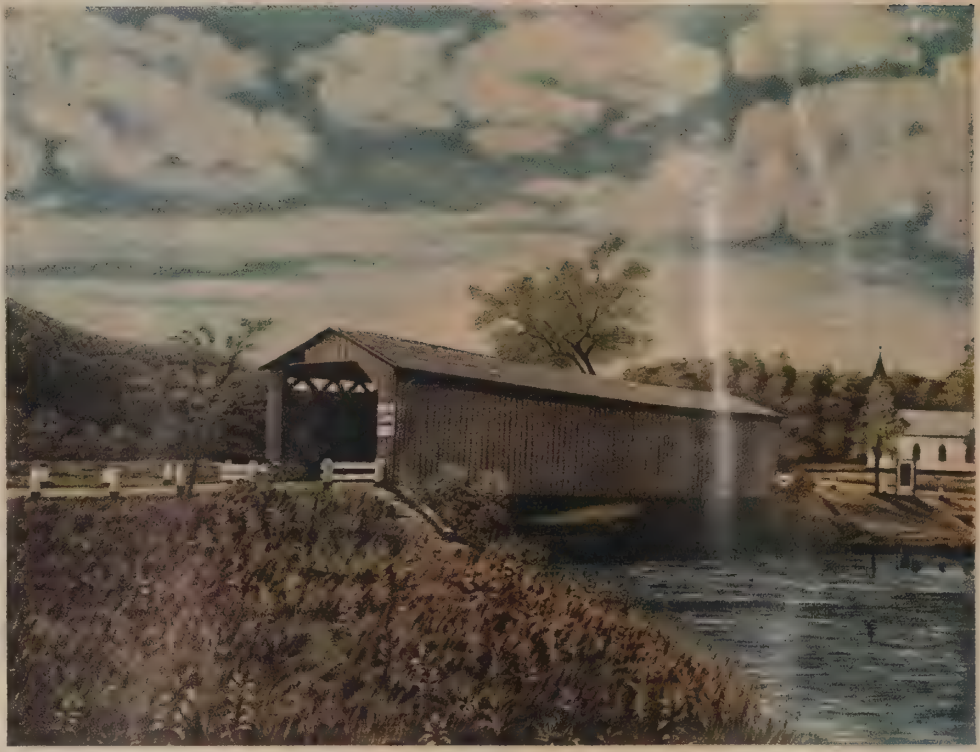
"It's a way of life that could branch out," she said. "I really love the area. I don't think any place has all the answers, but I think this place has the most for me at this point in my life."

Given by R. W. Smith 3/17/75 from LIFE magazine of April 16, 1951



A HOUSEMAN OUT-OF-DOORS

Off and on for the past 30 years Reed Sligh has been trying his hand at painting. Now 46, he is employed as a butler and houseman in Mount Airy, Pa., but he gets up at five in the morning so he can put in a couple of hours at his easel before he starts working. Last August, while he was taking a holiday in Massachusetts, he came upon a 100-year-old covered bridge in South Lee and spent the next two days sketching it. To get a good view, he perched himself on a ladder and dutifully observed the effects of the water as it passed under the bridge so he could "put as much reality" into the picture as possible. Sligh, who had never exhibited before and had learned of the contest through a newspaper notice, won third prize for oils.



Succeeding in the postal service

5-8-75 Eagle

LEE

Leon E. Jasanis of East Street in Pittsfield has spent 26 years working his way through the Pittsfield Post Office.

Last week, the 56-year-old Jasanis was rewarded for all those years when he was named the new postmaster here.

A cautious man, he views his appointment as a standard rise in the postal system.

He joined it in 1949, after returning from World War II duty in the Army Air Corps, and working for a brief time as a weaver in the now closed Wyandotte worsted plant in Pittsfield.

He took the civil service exam for the postal system, he admits, because he hoped for greater security and more money.

He spent his first seven years in the Pittsfield Post Office as a sub-clerk.

* * * *

"In 1956, I made regular clerk," Jasanis recalled one day last week while sitting in his office here. "A number of people retired and I moved up."

He sorted mail and did substitute work at the windows. In 1962, he took an examination and was promoted to a supervisory position, as foreman of mails.

"The examination was part of it but I guess they also take hard work into consideration for those things," Jasanis said. "I was fortunate. There was one job and a large number of people vying for it."

He retained the title of supervisor for 12 years, working as foreman of mails and foreman of delivery and collection.

Jasanis describes the delivery and collection job as interesting.

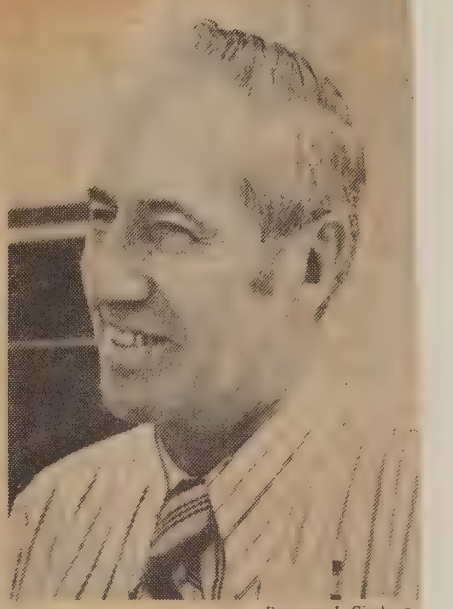
"I had 15 people directly under me and we were concerned with all the distribution of mail in the city and outlying sections."

Last January, he began a temporary three-month stint as postmaster at Bennington, Vt. Shortly after his return to the Pittsfield office, he was promoted to the Lee position.

* * * *

In addition to his regular work, Jasanis is a past president of the Pittsfield local of the National Federation of Post Office Clerks, and a former vice president of the federation's state organization.

He says he has no immediate plans for the Lee Post Office. "The first thing I have to do is get my feet wet and get to know the place. The thing that I want to do is give as good service as possible. I don't believe someone can walk into a place they don't know and say they have all the answers. Each town is different," he said.



Benjamin L. Ginsberg

Postmaster Jasanis: Do your job right.

One of the first things he says he will do is try to make sure people know how to use addresses and ZIP codes correctly.

"I don't do things for a pat on the back," he says. "I don't know how to describe it, but you get a good feeling inside when you're doing your job right. If you're not doing your job right, then you're going to find out about it," he explained.

* * * *

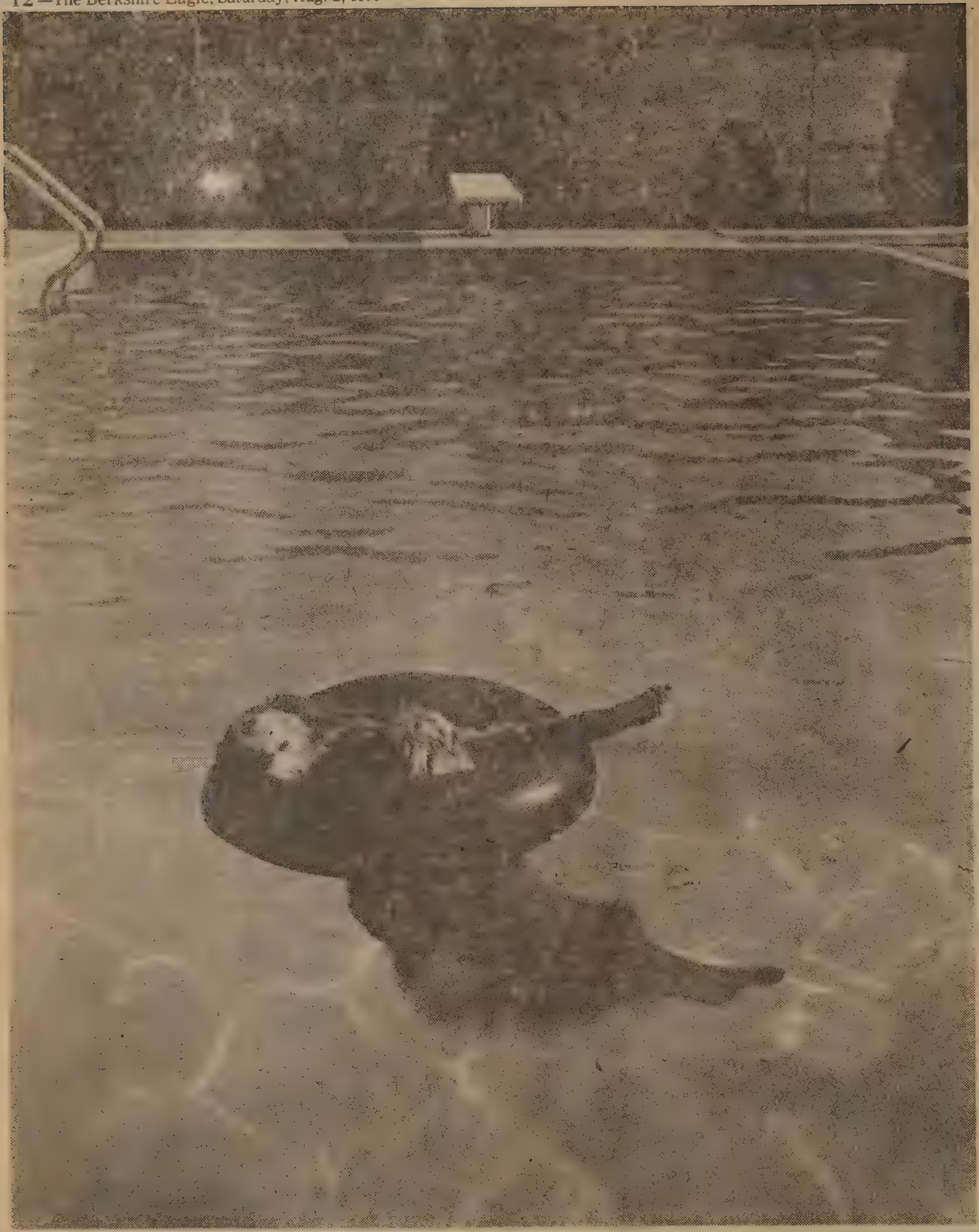
Appropriately, one of Jasanis's hobbies is stamp collecting. He says he also enjoys a round of golf, and bowling.

He is modest about his prowess in the two sports. Ask him his golf handicap and he replies, "No sir. I'm not going to tell you that. I'm just going to plead the Fifth Amendment."

Ask him his bowling score and he sheepishly explains with a shake of the hand that he plays candlepins and "rolls in the 90s."

His other love is gardening. "There's something tremendously satisfying about walking through a garden and pulling up a ripe tomato you've planted," Jasanis said.

Jasanis and his wife, the former Rachel Maiorano, have a married son in Florida and a married daughter in California.



Cool Dog

Floating blissfully in an inner tube in the family swimming pool, a golden retriever named April escapes the heat wave in a way that is unusual for dogs. The pet of the Don Perry family of George Street, Lee, she was taught to float in this fashion several years ago. She remains in the tube up to half an hour, sometimes falling asleep.

Eagl

Stephen Hawkins

PRAYING FOR BOUNTY, the Rev. John Kobza of Marian Fathers Seminary, blesses Stockbridge field plowed today for crops that will aid the world's hungry. Stockbridge-based Harvest of Hope, Inc., which is sponsoring the project, intends to give kidney beans grown in field off Route 7 to Church World Services to the needy. Sixteen-month-old Kristin Cahill, daughter of project director Thomas Cahill of Stockbridge, was among some 20 persons who participated in the ceremony this morning.

Performing arts center finds it has no need to fill in Lee

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — The Gathering Place, a performing arts center run by Eleanor Chapin in the old Phelps house at the corner of Main and Elm streets, will close Sept. 1 after an eight-month run.

Citing lack of interest as the reason for the closing, Ms. Chapin said: "It just doesn't seem to have filled a need in the town."

Ms. Chapin opened the Gathering Place last January with hopes of creating a central meeting place and teaching facility for dance, theater, singing and other arts. She has also taught dance in the Lee schools under the Title 2 Comprehensive Training and Employment Act.

Saying she was "chastened" by the experience here, Ms. Chapin spoke yesterday with sadness of her dream that never materialized.

"I came here all enthusiastic. I've tried so many things. I'm just taken aback that things that seem so right just didn't happen," Ms. Chapin said.

Among the activities that have failed are a square dancing program, a salon for local artists and programs for the town's elderly.

Ms. Chapin will remain a resident of the town, moving to a house she recently bought on October Mountain Road. She said the Gathering Place, a rambling and weathered 11-room wooden house, has cost her an average of $200-a-month to heat.

Several of the programs she has started will continue. She will teach in the Lee schools next year for as long as her CETA grant holds out and she expects an adult theater group to keep going.

For the present, Ms. Chapin is preparing several skits with the adult theater group that will be performed at the Aug. 31 firemen's muster here. And she is still seeking volunteers to prepare the muster unit that the town's elderly will have in the parade

But the weekly activities — dancing classes on Mondays, improvisation sessions for high school students on Tuesdays plus various acting projects — will cease on Sept. 1.

"The people around here are really very nice and very dear to me and it's difficult to criticize. But they really don't see a need for the types of things I tried to do. They seem happy with their beer drinking and their sports," she said.

Ms. Chapin has been in and out of the arts for the past 30 years, with dance and theater her main interests. She has danced modern, primitive, jazz and ballet and has been a choreographer. She has also run an "off-off-Broadway theatre" in New York City.

Twenty-six years ago she had a two-year stint on Philadelphia television. Through it all, she has had time to raise three children.

While trying to earn enough money to raise the three children, she scrubbed floors, danced in nightclubs, waited on tables and taught physical education in New York City health clubs.

"But through it all was always the theatre and dance," she said. "Those have always been in my life."

She says she's down but not out with the art scene in Lee. "It's time to get things together and try some new avenues of approach," she said.

GATHERING
PLACE
DANCE DRAMA

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

Eleanor Chapin at the Gathering place

May 28.1975 Eagle

Lee youths raise $1,200 for retarded

LEE — Seventy-three cyclists earned more than $1,200 for the Lee Education Association's recently completed ride-a-bike-for-the-retarded day.

The cyclists, who logged more than 1,100 miles were sponsored by local businesses and individuals. Each cyclist was paid a prearranged amount by his sponsors for each mile ridden.

George Comalli, a senior at the high school, won first place by riding 80 miles and earning $117.

The other top riders were 8th grader Adrian Kohlinberger, 5th grader Mark Kohlinberger, 8th grader Michael Hayden, 8th grader Peter Kegler and 7th grader Michael Zanilli.

All six will receive prizes from Adams Supermarkets, Friendly Ice Cream Co., H.A. Johansson and Lee Hardware.

Also aiding in the fund-raising effort were the schools' cafeteria personel, who made and served refreshments; Ed's Bicycle Shop and Joan Piacquadio, who helped organize the event.

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

George Comalli

Social Security ripoff

To the Editor of THE EAGLE:—

This is the gist of a recent telephone conversation I had with the local Social Security office:

S.S.: Mrs. LaFountain, did your husband die on March 29?

MRS. L.: Yes, he did.

S.S.: You cashed the disability check of $297?

MRS. L.: Yes, it was for the month of March.

S.S.: You weren't supposed to. You should have sent it back.

MRS. L.: I asked my lawyer and he said that if it was for the month of March, to go ahead and cash it.

S.S.: Well, lawyers aren't very well read on Social Security. If your husband had died one minute after April 1, you could have kept the check.

MRS. L.: Next time I'll keep the body around for a day and a half and keep it warm under an electric blanket. I'll wait and call a doctor one minute after 12.

S.S.: Well, the check was for your husband's use.

MRS. L.: For 3½ months he was so desperately ill that I had to pay someone every week to take care of him. The garage where he worked said as long as he wasn't coming back that instead of paying one-half the hospital insurance, I would have to pay the full amount of $9.77 a week. Good gods! I needed that insurance for security. They did send flowers when he died; however, I had to pay for his pills, the mortgage on the house, plus electric, telephone, oil, and food bills, as well as gas for my car to go back and forth to work. Don't tell me that Social Security gave me anything.

S.S.: In that case, you won't get the burial check of $255; furthermore, you owe Social Security $42. Have a nice day, Mrs. LaFountain.

I feel that I owe them nothing. Every woman whose husband has died should get retroactive pay from the check which Social Security has stolen from her, if she was foolish enough to have called Social Security instead of a lawyer.

(Mrs.) CLAIRE LaFOUNTAIN
15 Dundee Road
Pittsfield

Eagle 6/24/75

12/22/75

Mark Mitchell

SANTA AND SNOW mixed in the Congregational Church park in Lee Saturday afternoon as Santa (Herman Naventi) talks with Diane Labier, 3, of 98 Summer St., Lee. The event is sponsored annually by the Lee Volunteer Fire Department.

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Eagle 5/27/75

Frank V. McCarthy

LEE FIREMEN drew applause from onlookers during town's Memorial Day parade yesterday. Parade marched to Fairmount Cemetery, where annual memorial services were held.

Eagle May 30. 1975

Area Seabees spend 2 weeks in Mississippi

Forty men from the Pittsfield detachment of Reserve Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 27 completed two weeks of training duty May 24 at the construction-battalion center in Gulfport, Miss. The detachment is under the command of Lt. (j.g.) Robert J. Stern of Bennington, Vt.

The 1975 readiness training involved classroom instruction, rifle and mortar training and a variety of construction projects in the Gulf Coast area. The battalion also went through an extensive inspection by a team from the 20th Naval Construction Regiment and its own unit, the Seventh Reserve Naval Construction Regiment.

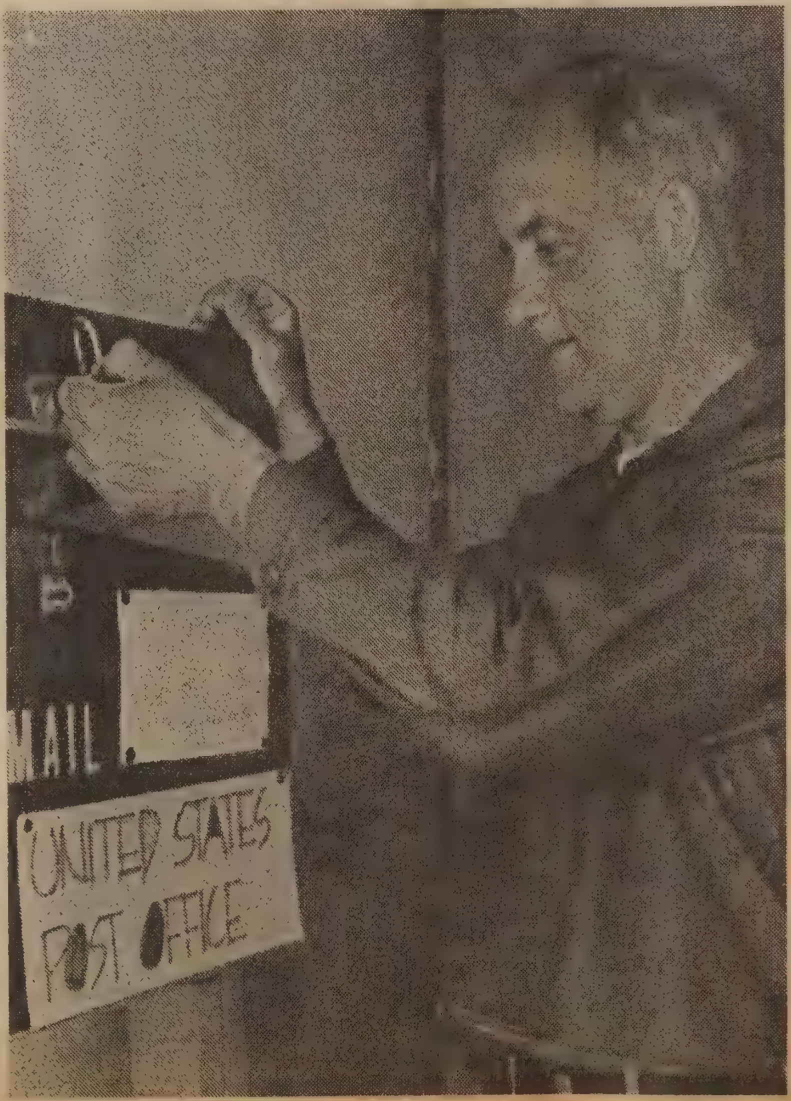
During the two-week active duty program, members of the battalion worked on projects at a center for exceptional children in Gulfport and a therapy center for crippled children in Kiln, Miss.

Other contingents of Seabees were completing a variety of jobs at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Fla., as well as a construction job on a fishing pier in Pass Christian, Miss.

Aside from the heavy work schedule, the Seabees' inspection consisted of performance on both the administrative and personnel levels.

A total of 380 men from various detachments in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts attended. For many of the men, it was a dramatic change from the 1974 readiness-training program, when the battalion spent two weeks at Ft. Wainwright, Alaska, in a cold-weather indoctrination program.

In contrast to Alaska's subzero temperatures and stark scenery, the Seabees this year were greeted with warm, humid weather and a landscape that included palm trees along the Gulf Coast.



LEE POSTMAN Joseph Coco serves as battalion postman for Reserve Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 27 when his Seabee unit is on its annual two-week training period.

24

Frank V. McCarthy

BLAZE AT HENRY'S Electric Co. at 252 Main St. sent two Lee firefighters to the hospital last night and caused smoke and water damage to the building. The amount of damage was not known this morning.

Eagle 6-5-75

Two firemen hurt in Lee blaze

LEE — Two firefighters were overcome while battling a blaze in an upstairs apartment at Henry's Electric Co., 252 Main St., last night.

John L. Piacquadio of Fairview Street was in the intensive-care unit of the Pittsfield General unit, BMC, this morning. He was reported in fair condition, suffering from smoke inhalation.

The other injured firefighter, Robert W. Brunell of 37 Fuller St., was treated for smoke inhalation and released from Pittsfield General last night.

The fire, which began about 11:15, caused smoke and water damage to the two-story wood-frame building. Fire department officials said this morning they did not know the exact amount of damage to the building or to the electrical appliances stored there.

Cause of the blaze was also unknown this morning, department officials said. The state fire marshal's office is investigating.

The smoke from the blaze was so intense that firefighters had to punch holes in the walls of the building to release it. Oxygen masks were brought in by the Lenox Dale fire department.

32—The Berkshire Eagle, Monday, Dec. 22, 1975

Mark Mitchell

CHRISTMAS TABLEAU at the Lee home of Francis Dupont is a seasonal showstopper along heavily traveled Route 20. The Duponts put up the display annually. They have also decorated their yard with Thanksgiving and Easter displays in the past.

12-24-75

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE TOY FUND Drive cochairmen Jane DeFreest (left) and Adelard J. Laliberte stand among some of the $1,600 worth of toys that were distributed today to children 13 years old or younger who might not otherwise have received presents this Christmas because of hardships in their families. More than 200 donors contributed a total of $1,681.50 to the annual toy-fund drive.

Dec. 2. 1975

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

EXPLAINING the Berkshire Home Care Corp. to the Lee Selectmen are, at left with beard, Jeff Abrams, and at right with book in hand, W. Merritt McBrian. Abrams is the group's assistant director and McBrian is the chairman of the board of directors. Seated next to Abrams is Selectmen Joseph J. Castronova. Seated next to McBrian is Selectman Martin H. Deely. The meeting was last night at the Lee Town Hall.

Lee officials strike bargain with Home Care Corp.

LEE — Two representatives of the Berkshire Home Care Corp. came to the Selectmen's meeting last night to explain their organization, and in the process struck an informal bargain with the board.

The Selectmen agreed to find an elderly citizen in town to serve on the corporation's board of directors and Home Care's representatives agreed to help the town process its grant applications for state and federal funds for the elderly needs.

The Home Care officials,— W. Merritt McBrian of Tyringham, chairman of the board of directors, and Jeffrey Abrams of Amherst, the group's assistant director — explained their agency was funded by the federal government through the state government. There are 13 Home Care Corporations in the state.

The purpose of the agency, the officials said, is to prevent institutionalizing the elderly and to keep them living in their homes.

The Selectmen told McBrian and Abrams they would find someone for their board of directors as quickly as possible.

McBrian and Abrams promised they would assist the town in preparing its grant applications and would inform the town of state and federal funds that might be available.

In other business last night, the Selectmen:

— Received notification that the Conservation Commission has asked the County Commissioners to provide county engineers to draw maps of sections of the town that the commission does not have.

— Received $5,063.24 from the Consumers' Union Insurance Co. of Massachusetts for damage sustained by the town's seven voting machines last year when a steam pipe burst where they were being stored in the Central School. Selectman Martin H. Deely said the award from the insurance company covered about one-fourth of the cost of buying new voting machines.

#347

Name in the News

Quick learner in Lee

LEE

"When I was tired of real estate or insurance work and needed a diversion, I would pick up the phone, make a call and ask someone to donate to the fund drive," recalls 20-year-old Joseph M. Toole, who last week led a Lee United Community Fund drive over its goal for the first time in three years.

Toole, who graduated from Lee High School in 1973, is credited with combining the enthusiasm of youth with the skill of a salesman to push the drive over its $46,000 goal in a year of grim economic statistics.

He is a young man who has learned quickly about people and money.

* * * *

Eschewing a college education after graduation from high school, Toole joined his father's insurance agency in Lee, and then opened his own real estate business. He graduated from the Aetna Insurance School in Hartford, Conn. earlier this year.

"I didn't want to go to college. I just wanted to get to work so I tried to find an area I could get into and enjoy without the necessity of a college education," Toole says.

It is a decision Toole says he has not regretted. "I really enjoy the work."

His success formula in the real estate and insurance business makes him a natural to head a drive like the Lee United Community Fund. Says Toole, "One of the greatest client getters is being involved in the community."

* * * *

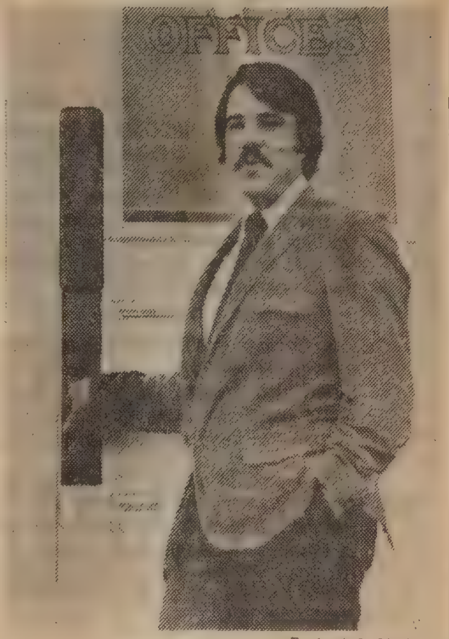
Although his previous service to the fund drive was limited to soliciting, Toole gladly took on the top job.

"I thought of it as a challenge and I really looked forward to it," said the second youngest of nine children. "I would say that people on the street gave me a 10 to 1 chance of reaching the goal.

"But we did it. And looking back on it, I really do think it was remarkable," Toole says. "It was remarkable because we managed to exceed the goal in light of rising unemployment in town, the ever increasing cost of living, serious job uncertainty and a profit decline for local businesses."

Toole says the job was done hard through simple work, by "saturating the territory as never before."

He shows considerable pride, both personal and civic, in exceeding last year's total of $43,000 by more than $3,000. "The agencies that receive the funds expect an increase, and if you don't have an increase, it means you're dead. What we did this year shows that Lee isn't a dead town— it's very much alive," Toole says.



Benjamin L. Ginsberg

Toole: people and money

* * * *

On his future, Toole says he is going deer hunting today. "I've been out for a day and a half and gotten nothing, but I'll get one yet," he says.

Turning to his business future, Toole plans to expand the real estate business into Lenox and Richmond.

Toole also has been mentioned as a future candidate for Selectman in Lee. He doesn't discount such notions. "I'd like to leave my options open. But I think that a person shouldn't be in politics and business at the same time. It has to be one or the other," he says.

And in the not-so-far future, Toole says, "I'd like to run the drive again, say, five years. I know where I made my mistakes this time around."

#248

Eagle 12/10/75

County dog officer defends inspections of Lee pound

By Ralph E. Brown

County dog officer Eleanor A. Sonsini of Pittsfield yesterday denied she had harassed Lee dog officer Francis Clark and his wife and charged that Lee Selectman Martin H. Deely "listened only to Mr. Clark's side of the story."

In a letter delivered to the County Commissioners, Mrs. Sonsini said she had gone to the Lee shelter to inspect it four times and had spent no more than five minutes each time.

Deely, acting for the Selectmen, a week ago wrote to the Commissioners to criticize Mrs. Sonsini for "ridiculously" harassing Clark and his family by "storming on their property in an officious manner."

Of the four times she went to the Pine Street shelter, "twice I saw Mrs. Clark and twice I spoke to their oldest daughter, at which time she told me that neither her mother nor father was at home," Mrs. Sonsini said.

"I said I wouldn't inspect the shelter without her parents' consent. I then always said thank you and left. If that is harassment, then I am guilty," Mrs. Sonsini said.

"If Mr. Deely wishes to accompany me every time I make an inspection, I would be most happy to have him come along," she added.

Ralph E. Brown

Eleanor A. Sonsini

No harassment

Mrs. Sonsini, charging that Clark "is not qualified to be a dog officer," said that if he "operated a clean, well-organized shelter, he would not have any concern about my inspecting said shelter."

Clark was not available for comment this morning. His wife said she would offer no comment.

Mrs. Sonsini said that the Commissioners "have the authority to demand that the Town of Lee either appoint another dog officer who will cooperate or to inform the Selectmen that I have the right to inspect the Clark shelter at reasonable times."

Commission Chairman John J. Pignatelli, D-Lenox, arguing that the Commission shouldn't "demand" that Clark permit the inspections, said he would accompany Mrs. Sonsini to a session of the Selectmen's meeting in Lee Monday.

Statutes governing dog control permit the Commissioners or county dog officers to inspect town pounds "at any time" and shall "make necessary orders in relation thereto."

Tranquilizer gun

The Commissioners yesterday also delayed for a week action on a plan to purchase a tranquilizer gun to quiet dogs that local and county dog officers are unable to restrain.

The plan will be discussed with county dog officers from North and South Berkshire next Tuesday before the Commissioners decide whether to obtain the $341.90 gun, prompted by a suggestion from Dalton dog officer Ralph E. Blakesley.

12-10-75 Eagle

Lee bank re-elects Sitzer president

LEE — Richard E. Sitzer of Lee was re-elected president of the Lee Savings Bank at the bank's 123rd annual meeting last week.

Other officers re-elected with Sitzer were : James I. Brown, Charles G. Tacy and Charles G. Tucker, vice presidents, and Henry M. Donahoe, clerk of the corporation.

Five trustees named to three-year terms were E. Kenneth Brancroft of Lenox, and D. Allan Fraser, Marcus A. Ferrelli, Warren A. Turner and Kirby S. Ducayet III, all of Lee.

Maria Cole Devore of Tyringham was elected a corporator of the bank, replacing Edward A. Christenson of Lee, who recently retired.

In his annual report, Sitzer said that deposits in the fiscal year ending Oct. 31 had increased $3.3 million, or 8.6 per cent, above the previous year.

He said most of the deposit growth was in term certificates, NOW accounts, individual retirement plans and the direct deposit of social security checks.

Amazing pie is made in blender

The most amazing, and the easiest, custard pie I've ever tried is made in the blender. My neighbor, Muriel Foley, gave me recipe. She had tried it and liked it.

It sounds crazy, but this is what you do: Into the blender dump ½ cup bisquick, 4 eggs, ¾ cup sugar, ¼ cup margarine, 2 cups milk, 1 tsp. vanilla and a dash of nutmeg.

Set blender on mix and let run for five minutes. Bake in a 9-inch greased pie plate for 45 minutes in a 350-degree oven.

It's so good I've made two already.

As you know, stick margarine is marked off in tablespoon measure. As four make ¼ cup. I sliced that much off the stick with a sharp knife and used the wrapper to grease the pie plate.

Lee Leahy

The Berkshire Eagle, Tuesday, Dec. 30, 1975

12/29/75

40 at Schweitzer opt for education program

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — Officials of the Peter J. Schweitzer Division of the Kimberly-Clark Corp. here say they are pleased with the participation rate of salaried employes in a self-improvement education program begun 18 months ago.

Forty of the corporation's 120 salaried employes here are enrolled in courses ranging from the traditional business and liberal arts curriculum to Dale Carnegie self-improvement courses to ceramics to auto mechanics for women. Another facet of the plan provides a family education savings account for employes.

Mary Ann Fanning, personnel supervisor of the mills, says that 70 courses have been taken under the Educational Opportunities Plan. Some employes have taken more than one course, and the actual number of employes that have participated is not known.

The 40 now enrolled in courses represent about one-fourteenth of the total Schweitzer workforce of 575. Unionized blue-collar employes are not eligible for the program.

Ms. Fanning said the program was a "negotiable contract item for union employes. "The union can negotiate for it in their contract, just like a pension plan," she said.

International Papermakers Local 78 signed a two-year contract in July 1974, about the same time the program for salaried employes went into effect. The plan was not mentioned in the negotiations.

Michael Thomas Vecchia, the president of Local 78, said the union had "no plans" to negotiate for the plan in the next contract.

"We really don't know too much about it," Vecchia said of the plan in an interview last week. "The information we have from the company on it is really rather vague."

The program, which officially went into effect on July 1, 1974, offers tuition book and mileage money to employes for either job- or non-job-related courses. The courses may be taken at the school of the employe's choice. Any course taken must be approved by the employe's supervisor.

While Ms. Fanning and the employes interviewed said most courses were approved, an application for an employe to take a belly-dancing course at Berkshire Community College was recently turned down.

When the program began 18 months ago, it replaced a program which only paid for employes to take courses directly related to their present jobs.

Kimberly-Clark President Harry J. Sheerin said in announcing the program that the firm wasn't introducing the program "for pure philanthropy," but recognized that Kimberly-Clark needed innovative programs to develop and retain skilled and motivated employes.

The self-improvement program operates through annual company allotments of funds to each employe. Funds that are not used during the year they are granted are returned to the company. The allotment, which the company says averages $480, is computed on the basis of the employe's salary, his job-performance rating and the company's earnings.

Under the family education (FamEd) part of the program, 25 per cent of the employe's annual allotment is placed into a savings account. That amount is cumulative and bears interest. The employe may also add up to $200 of his or her own funds to the account each year. The money can be used by the employe's spouse or children

The program has helped such Schweitzer employes as 29-year-old Mary Lane. Upon graduation from Lenox Memorial High School, Ms. Lane attended BCC. However, she quit before graduating and went to work in the Schweitzer purchasing department in 1967. In 1969, Ms. Lane transferred to the purchasing department of the Schweitzer operation in New Jersey.

She returned here in May 1974, as a research assistant doing analytical chemistry. And she has taken advantage of the KimEd program through courses in economics, business management, marketing and auto mechanics.

"I want to get back into office work," Ms. Lane said earlier this week. "That's where I'm happiest, where I can push a pencil."

The plan is helping her reach that goal, she says. "I think it's a fantastic plan. When it was first instituted, everybody was going around looking for hitches. But no one has found any yet. It's all working out very well," Ms. Lane said.

Another Schweitzer employe enthusiastic about the plan is Thomas Simmons, a cost clerk. Simmons sees the KimEd plan as his vehicle for getting a college degree, and a better job.

"If it weren't for this program, I wouldn't be going to college. I think it's fantastic that we can be getting this sort of program," said the 24-year-old 1969 graduate of Lee High School.

Upon graduation, Simmons worked as a short-order chef at a local restuarant for three months before joining Schweitzer as a machine operator. Within two years he became a cost clerk working on correlating data-processing information.

He has taken three accounting and one data-processing class at BCC. His plans call for receiving an associate's degree in business administration at BCC, and then a bachelor's degree, probably in psychology, at North Adams State College.

Simmons is an example of how the program also benefits the corporation in terms of endearing employes to their employers. "I feel an obligation towards Kimberly-Clark," Simmons said. "It's not implied in taking the courses under the KimEd plan, but I think that if the company is doing this much for the individual, then the individual should show thanks."

Carmello DiGrigoli, who now works as a researcher developing new paper products, is married and has two young sons. He is taking courses at BCC, but is also putting money aside for his sons' future education.

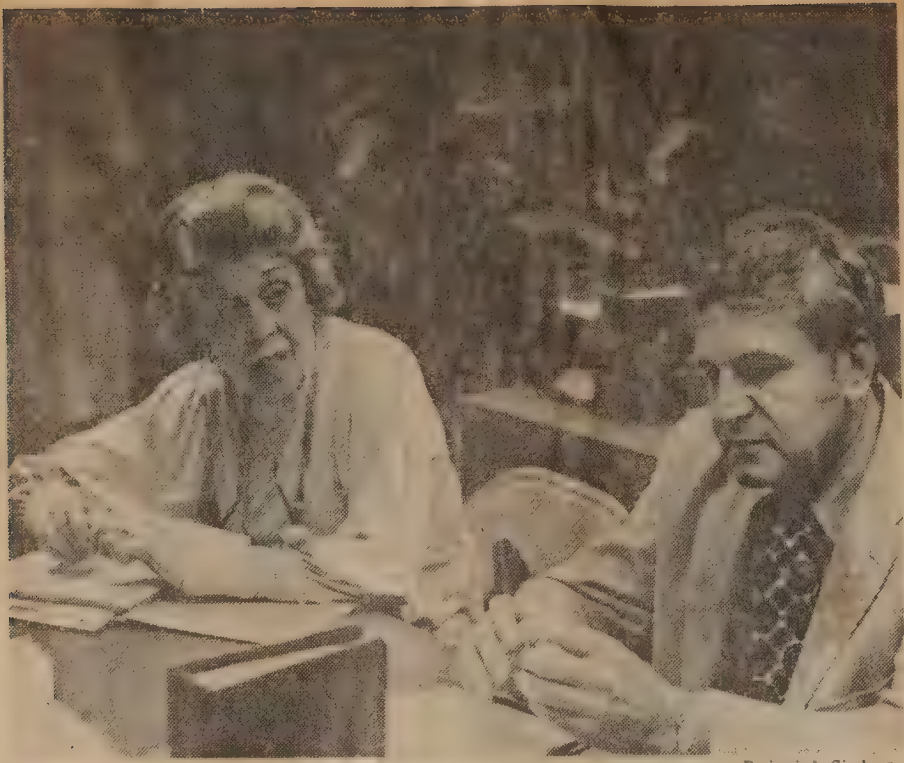
"Under the FamEd plan, my wife can go to school if she wants, and the money will be there for the kids so that when they're older they can go to school if they want to," DiGrigoli said.

"I'm taking management, accounting, salesmanship and speech courses myself so I can further myself. That sort of thing might lead to a salesman job someday," he said.

The names of the three employes interviewed were provided by the Schweitzer personnel office. Some other employes taking advantage of the program were more reluctant to talk.

Carl Steffin, the manager of the Grevlock Mill, refused to be interviewed by The Eagle. After three phone calls, Steffin's secretary said: "He said to tell you to talk to Gary Morton (Schweitzer employe relations manager and Ms. Fanning's supervisor). Mr. Steffin says that anything he would say would have to come first from Mr. Morton."

Eagle 12-16-75



Benjamin L. Ginsberg

DOGS and their treatment in Lee are the subject of county dog officer Eleanor A. Sonsini and County Commissioner John J. Pignatelli. The pair appeared at the Selectmen's meeting last night with Lee dog officer Frances Clark.

Lee officials defend Clarks against county dog officer

LEE — County intervention into the operations of the Lee dog officer received a sharp slap on the muzzle last night from this town's Selectmen.

The occasion was a meeting between County Commissioner John J. Pignatelli, county dog officer Eleanor A. Sonsini of Pittsfield, Lee dog officer Francis Clark, his wife, and the Selectmen. The meeting was called to discuss recent charges by Mrs. Sonsini that Clark abused dogs and did not fill out proper reports, and countercharges by the Clarks and the Selectmen that Mrs. Sonsini was guilty of "harassment."

"I'm worried about protecting the Clarks," Selectman Martin H. Deely said "I think they've done a good job. In addition, I don't understand why all the county critisism is aimed at Lee, which is one of the few towns in Southern Berkshire to have a dog pound and a dog officer. I don't understand why someone else isn't being criticized."

Mrs Sonsini and the Clarks have been arguing over the conditions at the Clark pound on Pine Street since October 1974, when Mrs. Sonsini inspected the pound as a member of the Berkshire Animal Protective Society.

The society, led to the Clarks by Susan Kelly, a Pine Street neighbor of the Clarks, said the dog pound facilities were not adequate and that dogs there were being maltreated. The Selectmen were never able to substantiate the charges.

Mrs. Sonsini reiterated her complaint that Clark did not keep adequate records and that animals were mistreated. The Clarks denied the charges.

The Selectmen strongly defended Clark.

"We're getting all this flak, but it's from outsiders, not our own taxpayers," Selectmen Edward M. Murray said looking directly at Mrs. Sonsini.

"I inspected the place unannounced last Saturday," Selectman Joseph J. Castronova said. "I found it perfectly adequate. I was satisfied.

"Mrs. Sonsini," Castronova said, "in your letter to the County Commissioners you mentioned that after going to the Clark's pound it was so dirty you had to clean your shoes. Well let me tell you something, if you walk through a barnyard, then your shoes are going to get dirty."

After one defense of Mrs. Sonsini, Pignatelli, who is also chairman of the Lenox Selectmen, met a sharp retort from Mrs. Clark. "Why are you picking on us. Why don't you do something about the town's that don't have dog pounds or dog officers — like Lenox."

Pignatelli did not reply.

At another point in the discussion, after Deely criticized the county for interfering in Lee's dog pound operations, Pignatelli said:

"Well, I don't blame you about being worried about protecting your operations. As a Lenox Selectmen, I'm for home rule. I always get worried when the county or state come in."

Pignatelli earlier in the year proposed a countywide dog pound.

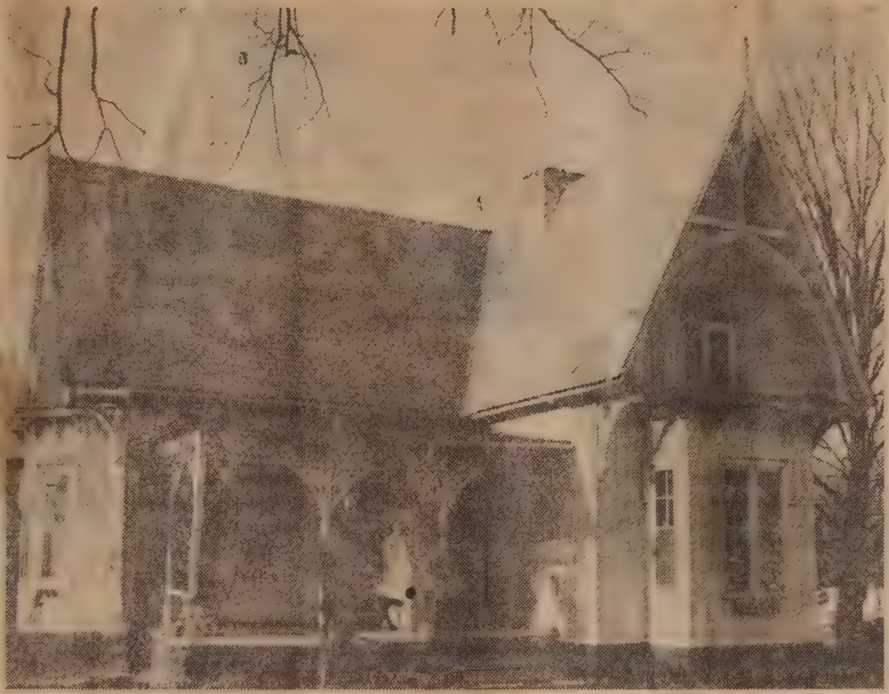
Clark told Mrs. Sonsini she could inspect their pound, but must not barge onto his property. The Selectmen said that if Mrs. Sonsini finds something wrong at the pound, she should tell the board. If Clark feels that Mrs. Sonsini is harassing him, he will tell the Selectmen, who will tell the County Commissioners.

The latest installment of the controversy of the Clarks and Mrs. Sonsini started earlier this month. Clark complained to the Selectmen of Mrs. Sonsini's "behavior."

The Selectmen then wrote the County Commissioners on Dec. 4 saying Mrs. Sonsini "has been ridiculously harassing" Clark and his family by "storming on the property in an officious manner." The Selectmen said they were "fed up" with Mrs Sonsini's behavior.

Mrs Sonsini denied at the Dec. 12 commissioners' meeting that she had harassed Clark, saying she knocked on the front door of the house both times she had visited the pound. Mrs. Sonsini said, however, that Clark was not fit to be dog officer and did not fill out reports as he was supposed to.

12/24/75



Photos by Stephen Hawkins

Victorian House, above, in New Lebanon, N.Y., markets period furniture and artifacts. Mrs. Henry Rauch, at right, who manages the shop with her husband, makes dolls like the one shown at left. Clothing and jewelry are also sold at the shop at Routes 20 and 22.

Dressed in gingerbread, this shop sells Victoriana

By Stephen Hawkins

NEW LEBANON, N.Y. — One of the latest additions to the Lebanon Valley business scene is the Victorian House which offers, as the name implies, Victorian period furniture, clothing in that style, jewelry and handcrafted dolls dressed in appropriate costumes.

The managers and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rauch, who moved into the house two years ago. Although both are newcomers to the antique business, Mrs. Rauch, as she says, has "been doing a lot of reading on the subject."

Her husband is in the restaurant management business. Until recently, he was the owner of King Henry's Steak Pub, a local eating establishment which has resumed its original name, the Ski Lodge.

While the selection of furniture in the shop is somewhat sparse at the moment, Mrs. Rauch said more is planned. Among the articles for sale are quilts and dolls that Mrs. Rauch makes herself.

A onetime legal secretary, Mrs. Rauch has always made dolls as a hobby and decided to add them to the other merchandise available.

She said the dolls take from two days to a week to make, depending on the style. In addition to re-creating the Victorian type dress, Mrs. Rauch gives the dolls handpainted faces.

Noted Victorian house

The shop is well-named. Located at the foot of Lebanon Mountain at the junction of Routes 20 and 22, it is one of the area's most charming Victorian buildings. According to William Schell, who operates a gas station across the road, the structure dates back to "at least 1830."

Schell was one of nine children born in the house which was owned by his family for at least 70 years.

At one point, rooms were rented to two New York state troopers who used them as a barracks until larger quarters were constructed.

Schell's wife said she believes the house at one time belonged to the Kendall family, whose members were responsible for manufacturing the first thermometer in the United States.

Schell said that a lot of the "gingerbread" trim characteristic of houses of the Victorian era has been removed.

"It was too hard to paint," he explained.

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Miss Faith Anne Cheney

Faith Cheney is fiancee of Ellis Johnston

SOUTH LEE — Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Cheney of Pine Street announce the engagement of their daughter, Faith Anne, to Ellis F. Johnston of Lee, son of Edwin L. Johnston of Connecticut and Mrs. Hazel E. Johnston of Lee.

The wedding is planned for June 5, 1976, at the Church of the Good Shepherd.

Miss Cheney, a graduate of Lee High School, is a secretary for the Defenders Committee

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HOUSATONIC — Miss Audrey Marie Barbieri, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Barbieri Jr. of Park Street, was married June 21 to Edward R. Smith Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Smith of Great Barrington.

The ceremony was performed in the Lee Town Hall by Justice of the Peace John Nagel. A reception followed at Egremont Inn Country Club, South Egremont.

Attendants were Mr. and Mrs. Daniel L. Duprat of Chicopee.

After a trip to Virginia the couple are living on Kellogg oad, Sheffield.

The bride will be a senior at onument Mountain Regional High School in September.

The bridegroom, a graduate of Monument Mountain Regional High School, is employed at Grant City, Great Barrington.

Marriage intentions

Candice Ann Fryc, 1449 West St., and Gary Moors, North Adams.

Angela Elizabeth Carnevale, 343 Columbus Ave., and Carmen Joseph Adornetto, 9 Newell St.

The Rev. Joseph Massaro will officiate at the 11 o'clock ceremony in Mount Carmel Church A reception will follow at Itam Lodge.

The bride will wear a gown of organza with Venise lace accents. A Camelot cap of Venise lace will hold her mantilla She will carry a multicolor colonial bouquet.

Miss Pamela Colombari will be maid of honor for her sister. Mrs. David Mierzejewski, another sister of the bride, will be matron of honor. Bridesmaids will be Mrs. Richard Hanson, also a sister of the bride; Mrs. Robert D'Ascanio and Miss JoAnn Schnopp. Lori D'Ascanio will be flower girl. The honor attendants and the flower girl will wear yellow polyknit gowns and a crown of flowers. The bridesmaids will wear nile green, blue and peach polyknit gowns . They will carry baskets of multicolor spring flowers.

Russell D'Ascanio will be best man for his brother. Robert D'Ascanio, another brother of the bridegroom; Mr. Mierzejewski, Joseph Keen and David Sargent will usher. Peter Colombari will be

Patricia A.

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7/19/75

Ken Feil/Washington Post

IN WASHINGTON, Alice Brock replenishes hors d'ouevres supply at home of presidential adviser L. William Seidman. The Glendale restaurant owner and cook recently catered a party of some 200 Washington dignitaries and government staffers. Gingerbread construction at left is replica of Seidman's Washington house.

Alice finds Washington food scene easier to crack than Stockbridge pols

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

GLENDALE — Alice Brock is having an easier time these days convincing the hierachy of the Ford administration in Washington of her culinary powers than she is persuading the Stockbridge Selectmen to let her enlarge the place where she practices those powers.

While Ms. Brock is waging a seemingly interminable battle with the local government over plans to open another room in her Route 183 bistro, she seems on much better terms with members of the federal government, whom she served three weeks ago at a 200-guest party for presidential adviser L. William Seidman.

Seidman flew Ms. Brock, three assistants and 350 pounds of food from the Great Barrington airport to Washington to cater a housewarming party he threw in the 97-year-old Victorian residence he recently bought in northwest Washington.

The guest list for the affair included such Ford administration luminaries as Donald Rumsfeld, White House chief of staff; Earl Butz, Secretary of Agriculture; William Coleman, Secretary of Transportation; Edward Levi, Attorney General; Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors; Ron Nessen, White House press secretary; James Schlesinger, Secretary of Defense, and Frank Zarb, federal energy administrator.

Also attending were Simacha Dinitz, Israeli ambassador; Anatoly Dobrynin, Russian ambassador, and Sen. Charles Percy (R-Ill.).

Did it seem strange for Ms. Brock, once the press's epitome of the counter-culture, to be mixing with that sort of crowd?

"Not really. It was a job and I was glad to have the money," said Ms. Brock one day last week as she sat in a corner of her restaurant hand-printing new menus.

"I've done catering around here. As a catering job, it was not bad at all. They were very staid, very polite people. They were very appreciative of the food. At a lot of catering jobs, I don't like the way I'm treated, but they were very pleasant," Alice said.

Alice refused to reveal her price for the job, saying, "It wasn't very much at all. The price is something that I just don't talk about with anyone other than the people giving the party."

Why did the man who is financial adviser not only to the President of the United States, but also the likes of John Paul Getty choose to fly Alice Brock from the confines of the Berkshires to cater his housewarming party?

"I think they were looking for something different. I think having me cook sounded like a 'kookie' idea to them. But I never really asked," said Ms. Brock.

Although she was a celebrity cook, Alice said she never had any doubts about why she was there.

"It was a job for me. I was not a guest. I stayed in the kitchen and did my job. A lot of them came into the kitchen to meet me, but I definitely was not a guest," she said.

The Seidmans hired Ms. Brock at the suggestion of their daughter, Tracy Cirigliano of Cornwall Bridge, Conn. "She must have come over to the house for dinner or something. We've had a lot of guests," Alice explained with a shrug.

The menu for the "cocktail-type" affair was a variety of hors d'oeuvres, including vegetables with dip, pate, lobster bits, cheese and spinach pastries and stuffed grape leaves.

But the piece de resistance, Ms. Brock said, was a gingerbread replica of the Seidman house baked by Alice's sister, Zina. The 70-pound cake was made in sections in Glendale and flown down. Two other women from the restaurant, SherKer and Debbie Smith, accompanied Alice and Zina to the Seidman's.

Ms. Brock said she is hopeful of getting more catering jobs in Washington and said she received several queries at the Seidman's.

No one is more aware than Alice of the irony of getting along so well with the Washington federal establishment and so dismally with the Stockbridge equivalent.

And, it seems, the same reputation that got her the job in Washington may be responsible for her problems at home.

"I can't help feeling that if it was someone who didn't have that history of the movie behind them who was trying to enlarge a restaurant, they wouldn't be getting such a difficult time as I am. A lot of it has to do with the movie and that image," Ms. Brock said.

"It's easy to look past the plant that I've built here and instead see the woman created in an Arthur Penn movie that happened long ago. But we really don't sleep on the floor and eat brown rice in here," Ms. Brock said.

"A lot of my problems with the town have to do with that movie image. That and the fact that I'm a woman, not married, who's more independent than they're used to," she said.

Ms. Brock tries hard to convey the impression that she is more a hard-working entrepreneur than anything else. She says she sees herself these days as "a mule."

"I come to the restaurant between 5 and 6 in the morning. I leave at 10 or 11 or midnight and then I go home to sleep. I'm 34 years old, employe 20 people and owe the bank $100,000 on this restaurant.

"I've lived in the area for the past 15 years. I'm not a New Yorker, for Christ's sake. I own a home in Stockbridge on 30 acres of land that I owe the bank over $20,000 on. I pay my taxes. The employes here have an insurance plan. I give to my share of charities. I'm a member of the Laurel Hill Association, the Chamber of Commerce and the National Businessmen's Association. And I drive a new American car," Ms. Brock said.

"But just because I speak my mind and don't compromise does not mean that I should be treated like a 'freak,'" she said.

8 —The Berkshire Eagle, Thursday, July 31, 1975

Name in the news

Interim headmaster at BCD

STOCKBRIDGE

Frederick Brooks Butler of East Street, Lenox, who started this month as interim principal at Berkshire Country Day School (BCD) here, is "an incredibly responsible and thoughtful person," according to a former headmaster at the private school.

The predecessor, Donald T. Oakes, said this week, "Had Butler been interested in the position, I would have been more than happy to see him appointed as my immediate successor. Such was my confidence in his ability."

Butler taught English and was assistant principal at BCD while Oakes was principal. Oakes left in 1968 to become headmaster of Miss Hall's School in Pittsfield, soon to become the Hall School.

Butler, however, left BCD and became head of the English department at Pingree School in Hamilton.

He returned to BCD in 1972, resuming his former positions, but left again in 1974. Shortly after the BCD trustees announced last month that principal R. Michael McNaught had resigned, effective Sept. 1, they named Butler to serve until a permanent successor takes over, probably next June.

BCD, a private coeducational day school, this year had an enrollment of 268 students in kindergarten through ninth grade at its Route 183 campus.

* * * *

"Butler is a very orderly person who gets things done with a minimum of fuss and gets along well with people," commented Thomas E. O'Connell, president of Berkshire Community College in Pittsfield. Butler was O'Connell's administrative assistant and taught English at BCC from 1965 to 1967,

And, O'Connell added, "He's fun to have around."

Oakes recalled that at his faculty farewell party at BCD, Butler held forth for about an hour, extemperaneously regaling those present with anecdotes of Oakes's administration.

There was great humor, but never at the expense of any person, Oakes said. "Brooks has the ability to laugh at an incident without ever laughing at the people involved. It's a fine distinction, but especially important when a person works with children."

He is also, added Oakes, "a very competent administrator."

* * * *

The subject of this praise is a tall, 45-year-old native of Pomfret, Conn., who chooses his words carefully.

"Any school with a change in headmasters must show that it still wants top education," he told a recent visitor to his office at BCD. He cited BCD's small-class size, flexibility in adapting curriculum to students' needs, and a challenging — at times innovative-academic program.

He also feels very strong, he said, that "one of the strengths of a small elementary day school is bringing together people who want to work with and for it."

He does not anticipate any change in the school's programs this year. Possible changes may be discussed, however, such as working with the Hall School, while each school maintains its own identity. Such cooperation, he said, could cut costs and increase programs.

Eileen Mooney

Mr. Butler: Minimum of fuss

Butler also wants greater participation from the BCD parent group.

"We are, after all, serving a parent body and it's important we hear from them," he stated.

* * * *

He said he has no desire to become BCD's permanent headmaster (BCD uses the terms principal and headmaster interchangeably).

He left BCD last year because he had been teaching "off and on for 17 years and wanted a year off to consider other possibilities in life," he explained.

He started one such possibility, Hamlet Antiques in Lenox. That business, operated on a part-time basis for the summer, is really "on the back burner now."

Mrs. Butler, the former Jane Beals of Brookline, teaches history part-time at the Hall School. The couple have three children, two of whom are enrolled at BCD while the third is enrolled at the Lenox Elementary School.

If he should continue in education, he would want to teach at least 50 per cent of the time. Anyone trying to be both teacher and headmaster inevitably shortchanges one function or the other, he said.

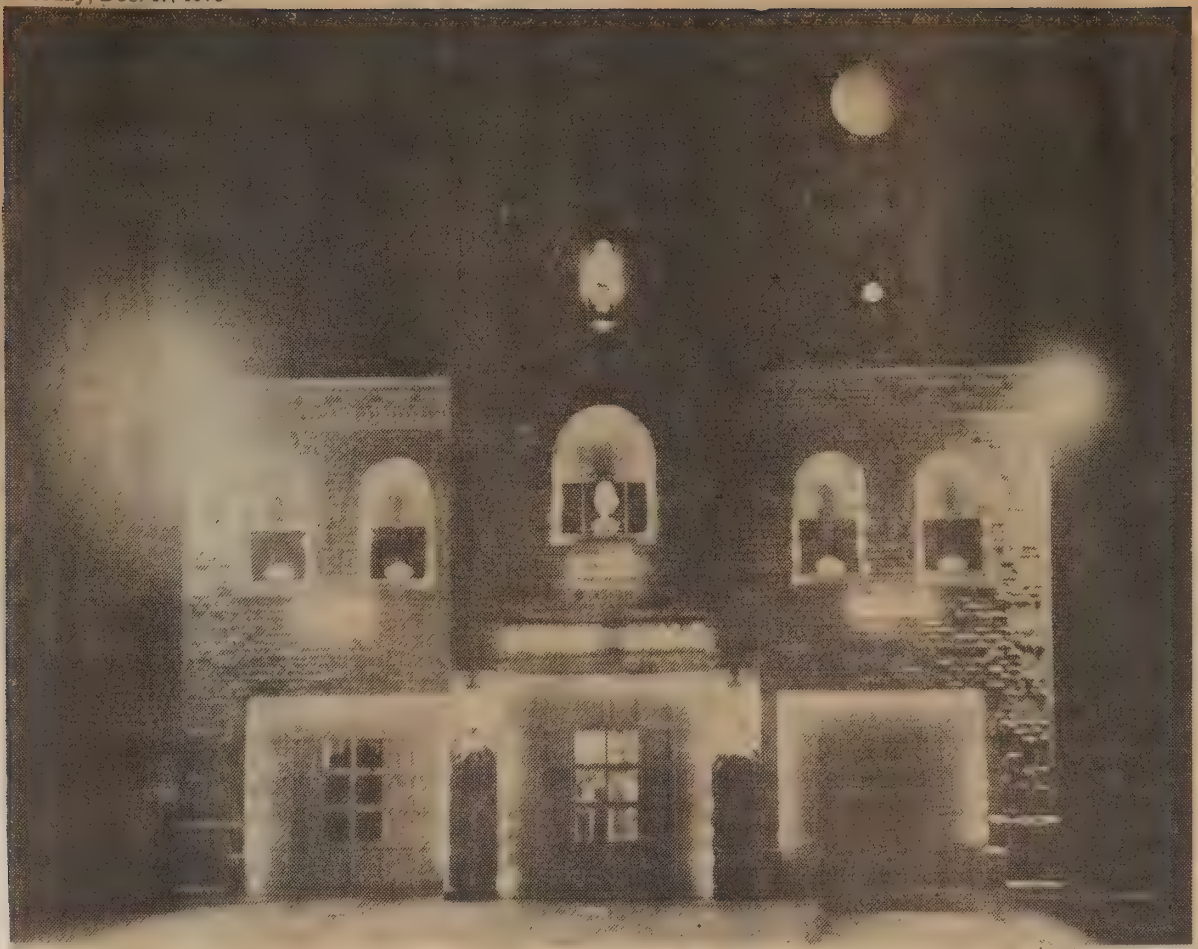
One of these days he might also like to write. He admitted having "the usual number of half-finished stories in a bottom drawer."

Several years ago, when Oakes and Butler taught at the former Lenox School, they wrote a Western melodrama that the school faculty presented. They also wrote a children's book, which they used for reading exercises at BCD but never seriously tried to have published.

Butler was at Lenox School for seven years. He also taught part-time at BCD, which shared faculty with Lenox. Before that, he was in a training program at Morgan Guaranty Bank in New York, but left when he "discovered country life."

Eagle

ednesday, Dec. 17, 1975



Benjamin L. Ginsberg

FIRE HOUSE ablaze with Christmas lights will adorn Main Street in Lee through the Christmas season. The lights are put up annually by members of the Lee Volunteer Fire Co. The two light dots to the right of the center of the house are unidentified. Cloudy skies Monday night, when this picture was taken, obscured the moon and Lee police logged no reports of flying saucers. The only remaining explanation is that they were caused by spots on the photographer's film.

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LIVE LOBSTERS

Benjamin L. Ginsberg

FRESH FISH and lobster from the Maine Fish Stop, a newly opened store on Main Street in Lee, are held by the store's owners, Arthur Zolinski, left, and David Marvin, right. The pair get the fish fresh from Kittery, Maine, three times a week. The store will be open Monday through Saturday from 10 to 6.

New firm brings fresh fish to Lee

By Benjamin L. Ginsberg

LEE — Fish fresh from the waters off Kittery, Maine, will be coming to Main Street in Lee now that David Marvin and Arthur Zolinki have opened their Maine Fish Shop here.

The two men say they will go to Maine three times a week to stock the store with lobster, clams, codfish, swordfish, haddock, shrimp and flounder.

The store will be open Mondays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Marvin is the former owner of the Davmar Construction Co. of Lee, which closed last month. The fish store is in the same building that housed the construction company.

The fish business is nothing new to Marvin.

"I had a fish market in Kittery six years ago," he explained.

"I used to go out in my boat, and then retail the fish I caught. That works out well for this business, because I know all the fishermen in Kittery," he says.

Kolinski is a 51-year-old native of New York City, where he worked in the hardware business for 30 years before coming here.

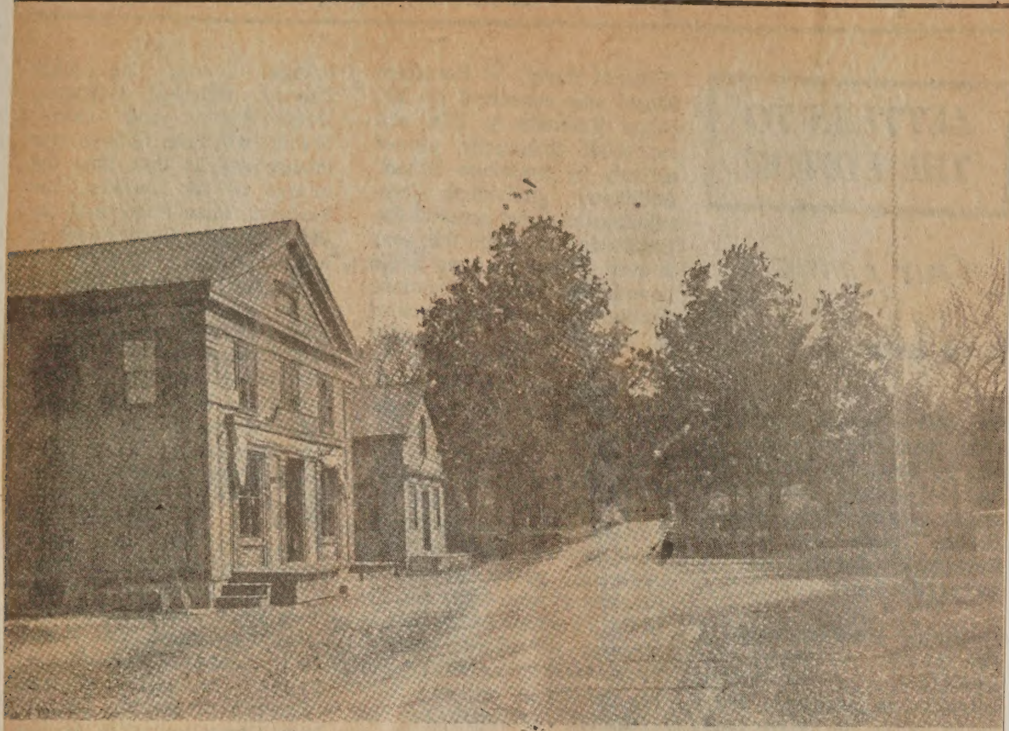
"I was sick of it. I was never my own boss, and this looked like something I wanted to do," he said.

"Our biggest asset," Marvin explained, "is that we get the fish right off the boat in Kittery, so that what-we bring into the store we know was caught the night before."

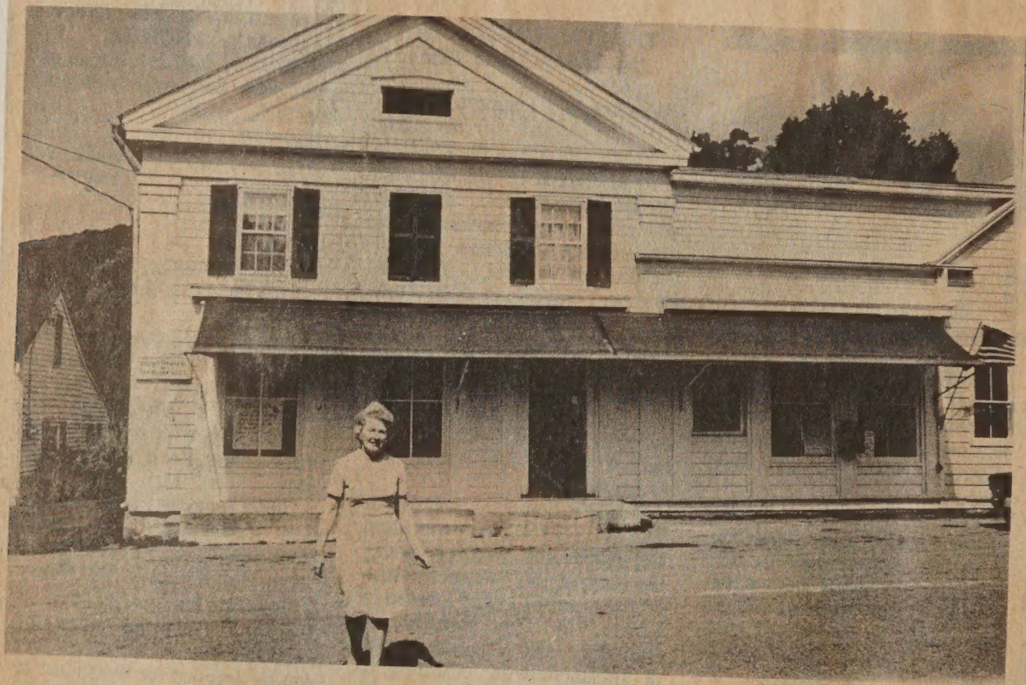
In addition to expecting solid business from the fish-lovers of the area, the partners expect a good response from weight-watchers.

"A weight-watchers diet calls for fish five times a week," says Marvin with a smile. On their latest trip to Kittery they brought back "700 pounds of fish and 200 pounds of lobster.

"It'll be gone by Saturday," Marvin said.



The Tyringham store and post office, (left), at the turn of the century. Today the two buildings are connected.



Harris Photo

Store keeper and postmistress Mary Curtin pictured in front of the same buildings this week, announced recently that she will close both enterprises August 31.